



## CHILD OF COURAGE SALUTED IN BRIDGEND

SEE PAGE 3



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## FIREFIGHTERS FIGHT HUGE BLAZE IN COITY

PAGE 5

## In line for prestigious award... Caring Jeni instant hit in Maesteg!



Jeni Lynne Williams at Bryn Celyn Care Home, Maesteg with resident Natalie Davies.

AN American who settled in Wales only 12 months ago, is in line for a prestigious caring award.

Jeni Lynne Williams, a care assistant at the Bryn Celyn Care Home in Maesteg, is a finalist in the category for Exceptional Newcomer in this year's Wales Care Awards – backed by colleagues, residents and their families.

The awards, organised by Care Forum Wales, recognise outstanding practice in the care sector. The prizegiving ceremony will take place at City Hall, Cardiff, on October 21 and Jeni's category is sponsored by Coleg Cambria.

Jeni, 27, hails from Indiana but her husband Steven is from Maesteg and she visited south Wales several times before they decided to settle in Wales.

(CONTINUED  
ON PAGE 9)



King Henry VIII and Katherine Parr made their royal presence felt at a big Charity event in Bridgend last weekend.  
(SEE THE FULL STORY ON PAGE 4)

## STAND BY FOR PRESLEY MANIA! Part of seafront will close for Elvis Festival

PART of the main road in Porthcawl will be closed this weekend – as the town gears up for Presley Mania.

BCBC and South Wales Police have been working with the organisers of the Porthcawl Elvis Festival (September 23-25) to make the event "as enjoyable and safe as possible," a council spokesman said.

"To help ensure that crowds attending the festival can enjoy strolling safely along Porthcawl's coastline in their blue suede shoes and colourful costumes, a stretch of the main road along the seafront will be

closed for the majority of the weekend.

"Visitors and local residents are advised that the road will be closed from the junction between The Green Avenue and The Esplanade through to the junction between The Portway and the Eastern Promenade."

It will be closed all day this Saturday (September 24) from 6am onwards and will stay closed on Sunday until 2am, when it will re-open. It will then close again for the rest of the day from 6am until midnight.

The council says timings may vary slightly in order to ensure the smooth running of the event and temporary

diversions will be in place. Drivers are asked to pay close attention to the temporary signage when driving in and around the town over the festival weekend.

One-way systems will also be in place at Victoria Avenue, Doddridge Way and Park Avenue, in order to minimise congestion on the diversion routes.

The majority of the Eastern Promenade will be closed to all vehicles other than taxis, coaches and mini buses that are dropping Elvis fans off at the event, but the Salt Lake car park will still be open and accessible. Additional signage will be provided to guide drivers to the car parks and dedicated drop-off zones.

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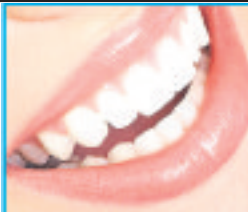


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## COITY FIRST RESPONDERS RUSH TO FILL THE BREACH

THE Coity WI was welcomed back after the summer break by president Lyn Griffiths, who reported that the Federation quiz was a great success and the Coity team were very happy with their result.

Lyn had won the Denman bursary before the summer break, and, accompanied by Frankie Evans, attended a very intensive course on silk ribbon embroidery. They were both delighted by the experience, describing it as 'very rewarding' and 'absolutely fab'.

Preliminary plans for the autumn months include a visit to *The Nutcracker* ballet at the Odeon, a social evening planned by the new Link group, a craft show in Bristol, and a visit to the Royal Mint.

Regular groups – craft, walking and luncheon clubs – continue, with the addition of whist lessons being introduced by Val Clatworthy.

Our speaker for the evening was indisposed, her place was ably filled by volunteers from the Coity and Bridgend First Responders. It was an enlightening experience, and we were very pleased to learn so much about caring people working in our community.

The three volunteers who demonstrated their

skills were Ryan, a student paramedic; Mike, an IT engineer and team co-ordinator for the volunteers, and Emma, who works as a regulatory affairs manager.

Community First Responders are teams of volunteers who are trained by the Welsh Ambulance Service. They attend emergency calls and provide care until the ambulance arrives. They can arrive at an emergency scene in a matter of minutes, as they are sent to calls in the Coity and Bridgend area.

The responders carry sophisticated equipment, which enables them to deal with emergencies such as cardiac arrest, breathing difficulties and many other life-threatening conditions, until the ambulance arrives.

The value of the volunteers, at a time when the ambulance service is under such pressure, is immense, and the team were thanked on behalf of the WI by Lyn Griffiths.

The next meeting will take place at Gilead Hall, Coity on October 20 at 7pm. The speaker will be Norma Clarke, who will talk about Guide Dogs for the Blind.

A warm welcome is extended to visitors and new members.

ES

## Knit & Natter group's blankets for the elderly



St Brides 'Knit & Natter Group' donated blankets to Porthcawl care home residents.

**RESIDENTS** at RMBI care home Albert Edward Prince of Wales Court in Porthcawl, recently received a donation from St Brides Knit & Natter Group, which started in 2010 and consists of 40 ladies meeting once a month in All Saints in Southern-down for a coffee morning and knitting session.

The group had been looking to donate self knitted blankets and 'tiddle mitts' for a good cause and have now

teamed up with the Porthcawl care home.

Group members Sue Hobbs and Jenny Francis, whose husband Dave is a member of the local Masonic lodge, visited the home last week and donated three bags of knitwear to the residents.

Business administrator Rebecca Timms said: "We cannot thank Knit & Natter enough for their generosity. Talks are underway about a long term arrangement between the group and our home, and we would be delighted to see every new resident being provided with a comfy blanket for the colder winter months."

## 'Work-ready' roadshow to visit Bridgend

A WALES-wide roadshow to get young people work-ready will visit Bridgend town centre on Thursday, September 22 between 10am and 2pm on Caroline Street.

Young people, aged between 16-24 and their parents, are invited to drop in to chat through different work and career options.

Organised by Careers Wales, the 'Are You Ready for Work?' roadshow will help young people making decisions on their future careers.

CV writing and interview tips, as well as access to live job and

apprenticeship vacancies will be on offer.

Jayne Tilley, area manager from Careers Wales, said: "We are really looking forward to welcoming you to the 'Are You Ready for Work?' in Bridgend Town Centre.

"Moving on or starting out in your career can be very daunting and many find themselves unsure of their next steps, what's available, or where to go for help. We hope the day will be fun, informal and informative."

"You may even come away with a job or an offer to start training." For further information, contact Bridgend Careers Centre on 0800 028 4844 ext 6293.

## Readers' Letters

### Questions over cull of MPs

**I**APPLAUD whoever is responsible for making a move on reducing the number of Members of Parliament from 650 to 600.

### Countries WILL trade with UK

**W**ITH Europe making veiled threats about trade deals, perhaps we should look at all the French and German cars pouring into the country.

Maybe we should put a tax on them, after all we buy a lot more from them than they do from us.

I see that Australia, New Zealand and other countries are getting friendly again and also the USA, which bodes well.

Nigel Lloyd, Barry.

### Brexit views, not mind reading...

**W**ITH reference to the several responses to my letter about the EU Referendum, which were published last week (September 15), I'd like to briefly make the following four observations:

1. I did not 'mind reading' as accused by one of your respondents. My assertions are based upon research and interviews carried out following the Referendum by qualified agencies on the motives of why votes were cast one way or another.

2. The prickly response of the Brexiters, verbal or written, does suggest that in hindsight at least some of them, perhaps

only subconsciously, are having second thoughts about the wisdom of their vote.

3. The fact is on record that the main leaders of the Brexit campaign did lie, and that remaining in the EU was, and is, supported by business leaders who know what it means and are the life blood of our economy.

4. In my letters I make no personal reference to any individuals to avoid personal insult, but the contempt shown to me by some of the responses, with endless personal digs at me by name, suggests that they, including certain councillors, could do with a little basic education in good manners.

Marc Delaney, Barry.

The UK has a population of 57 million (sic) so the average responsibility each MP has for all his or her constituents equals to approximately 88,000.

With 50 MPs being discarded, the average would amount to 95,000. These figures include all persons and that relates to children of all ages.

It is ironic to consider that the USA, which has a population of 320 million, has 530 senators. The average number of people represented by each senator averages out at 630,000.

How on earth can any Member of Parliament complain about plans to reduce MPs by 50, when it is plainly obvious the figure should be more than the 50 recommended?

I have no doubt that should this be passed in Parliament, the Welsh Assembly will demand more AMs for the Senedd.

FMD Knill, Pendoylan.

**FOOTNOTE:** Under the boundary proposals, Wales stands to lose a quarter of its MPs to just 29 members in total. Do other readers feel this is adequate or fear, as some do, that it would adversely affect Welsh representation in the UK Parliament?

### 'Britain could always stand on its own feet'

**I**AM an 86-year-old Yorkshireman with strong views about my country. As for Brexit, we should never have joined in the first place.

We could always stand alone, and we have become so entangled in the EU that it will take ages to untangle.

I always wanted out, but I thought about the credentials of those who wanted us to remain.

A failed American president, who in two

terms of office still couldn't close Guantanamo Bay, couldn't reduce domestic gun crime, and couldn't bring in a cheap healthcare system for poor folk.

Lord Kinnock said if he became Prime Minister, he would abolish the House of Lords. He couldn't get there quick enough!

If you don't like it here, whoever you are, knuckle down and you will enjoy our forthcoming prosperity.

Gerald Parsons, Barry.

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### Quakers not about cereals!

**P**ENARTH local Quaker meetings take place each Sunday in The Kymyn, Beach Road, Penarth, from 10.30am to 11.30am.

We welcome visitors (adults and children) to any of our meetings, but especially on October 2 and 9, during Quaker Week.

Perhaps you think Quakers are something to do with oats? Died out years ago? Wear funny clothes? In our meetings, we sit in

stillness, giving us time to become aware of God, and connect with others.

We find God in ourselves and those around us, seek to live in peace and equality, and work creatively together to build a better world. For example, we collect donations for Penarth Foodbank every Sunday.

We are one of nearly 500 meetings of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain. Our website at [www.quaker.org.uk](http://www.quaker.org.uk) will tell you lots more about us!

Vanessa Mordin, Penarth.

### HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL SEPTEMBER 29)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary.

For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
22 Thur	11.03	9.5	23.31	9.2
23 Fri	11.57	8.8		
24 Sat	00.32	8.5	13.04	8.3
25 Sun	01.39	8.0	14.22	8.2
26 Mon	03.09	7.9	15.49	8.2
27 Tues	04.28	8.3	16.54	8.7
28 Wed	05.31	8.8	17.52	9.2
29 Thur	06.16	9.3	18.34	9.6

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

## Parkinson's support Group

PORTHCAWL Parkinson's Support Group meets on the second Friday of each month for lunch at a local venue.

Anyone with Parkinson's, and their partner or carer, is welcome to attend and to know that they are not alone.

For further information, including time and location of the monthly lunch, please call 01656 783071.

NINA CHARLESWORTH

## ZUMBA IN PYLE

GO along to Zumba class with Michelle Alparslan at KPC Pyle every Tuesday, from 9.30am – 10.30am.

A great way to keep fit, lose a few pounds and make new friends!

All abilities welcome, entry is free, but a voluntary contribution is appreciated. Call 01656 749219 for more information, email: [kpcyouth@hotmail.com](mailto:kpcyouth@hotmail.com).

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# A 'child of courage' saluted in Bridgend

**RIGHT:** Luca Pucella receives his 'Child of Courage' award from Louise Apsee of Bridge FM.

**NINE-year-old Luca Pucella, from Bridgend, was recognised as a 'Child of Courage' at the Local Hero awards held in the county borough.**

Luca has been diagnosed with rare Rapid-onset Obesity with Hypothalamic dysfunction, Hypoventilation and Autonomic Dysregulation – there are thought to be fewer than 100 diagnosed cases worldwide – condition more commonly referred to as ROHHAD.

There is no cure for this debilitating condition, and young Luca depends on a monitor to help him with his breathing.

A spokesperson said: "Despite this, Luca faces every challenge with a smile on his face and with admirable courage."

The award for the Children of Courage category was sponsored by businessman David Balcombe, whose interests include a McDonald's in Pencoed.

He said: "It is an honour to be sponsoring the Children of Courage category in this year's Local Hero Awards."



"It is so important to recognise all these individuals who go through so much, yet still always have a smile on their faces. I am thrilled to be a part of the 2016 Awards and am delighted that Luca Pucella got the recognition he deserved as his story is truly inspiring."

Cerys Evenden of the Local Hero Awards said: "Every year, we look forward to hosting this special awards ceremony that celebrates all the unsung heroes that don't usually get the recognition they deserve."

"We are so grateful to McDonald's in Bridgend and to all the other sponsors who have generously taken part, without them, our awards wouldn't be able to go ahead."

## The Wyndham Arms makes CAMRA guide

**A BRIDGEND pub has been acclaimed for the quality of its real ale – by members of the town's Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) branch.**

The Wyndham Arms Hotel in Dunraven Place is listed in CAMRA's Good Beer Guide 2017 (published on Thursday, September 15).

Local branch members chose the Wetherspoon pub following regular visits to check on the quality of the real ales on offer. They also took into account customer service, décor and overall atmosphere.

## Tenor Wynne helps lift choir's annual concert

**P O R T H C A W L Male Choir's annual concert featured Welsh tenor Wynne Evans (of Go Compare fame) and proved a resounding success.**

Mair Jones prepared the choir in a wide selection of songs, which catered for the emotions as well as more bouncy numbers. Richard, our accompanist was in fine form and excelled with the piano solo in Finlandia.

Wynne entertained the audience with well-known musical pieces and also with story-

telling. He was accompanied on the piano by the brilliant Rhiannon Williams-Hale, to whom the choir is extremely grateful. We are also thankful for the support of our compere, Evan Williams.

Howard Evans thanked all concerned with the arrangements for the concert and concluded by thanking the advertisers, patrons, VIPs and the audience for their support.

A wonderful evening was had by everyone, particularly the appreciative audience. **ME**

## WI TEAMS TACKLE THE HI-TIDE QUIZ TEST...

*The ladies of Pentrych WI receive the winner's Cup from Ann Davies, federation chairman.*



**ON September 13, 35 teams of eager recognition, the scores were close, with two teams quizzers met in The Hi-Tide, Porthcawl, to take part in Glamorgan Federation of Women's Institutes' annual quiz night.**

Questions set by Novello Peters and Clare Atherton would have challenged the 'Egg Heads' and competition was fierce!

After eight grueling rounds and a round that tested the team's skills at anagrams and word swotting up for next year's competition! **JE**

## MATRON SIAN IS RETIRING AFTER 40 YEARS' SERVICE

**RIGHT: Matron Sian Hammett**

**COLLEAGUES and friends have bid farewell to Sian Hammett, matron for acute medicine at Princess of Wales Hospital, is retiring from the NHS on Friday.**

Sian began her career back in 1976 when she started training as a state enrolled nurse at Morriston Hospital and over the years she has worked at Singleton, Mount Pleasant, and Hill House hospitals.

"I have had a wonderful career and over that time, I have seen many changes – most very much for the better," said Sian, who is originally from Tredegar and now lives in the Gower.

After having her children, she returned to work full-time in 1981 and since then she has spent time nursing in many different departments.

"But I had a background in stroke care and that has been a passion, particularly since I took up this role at Princess of Wales Hospital seven years ago," she said.

"I will miss so many things about my job, but especially the people I have enjoyed working with over the years."

"We are very much a team here at Princess of Wales."

Sian isn't turning her back her nursing and is now planning to be involved in the care sector closer to home.



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## Pencoed school proud of Macmillan fundraisers

**Congratulations to two pupils from Pencoed Comprehensive school**

**for tackling a charity event called 'Game Changers' for Macmillan Cancer.**

Rhys Evans and Lewis Watkins were keen to complete the event, which entailed doing a 24-hour gaming session.

They planned how they would do their event, and where and when, and designed their own sponsor sheet.

The Macmillan Cancer Game Changers Event involved them playing on the PS4 games console on various games; they also streamed the session on Twitch which family and



**ABOVE: Lewis and Rhys with their fundraising total.**

friends found very amusing.

They raised £235.15 with £50-plus in Gift Aid, which is a fantastic effort and the school is very proud of them both.



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## Porthcawl society's artwork on show



**PORHCAWL Art Society's 50th anniversary celebration reached a high point with its exhibition in the Senedd, which concluded on September 18.**

The First Minister, Carwyn Jones AM had opened the exhibition. The exhibition for autumn is now on show at the old police station, John Street, Porthcawl, and members will still be

displaying their work in the street on Saturdays (as long as the weather allows).

Anyone interested in joining can come along for a chat; workshops take place Wednesdays at 1.30pm – 3.30pm and Wednesdays from 7pm – 9pm.

**ROBERT TAYLOR**  
(Vice chairman)

## King Henry and his Queen visit for Charter ceremony!

**A TUDOR fair transported Bridgend town back in time last Saturday to mark the granting of the Market Charter by King Henry VIII in 1516.**

Five hundred years ago, Bridgend was the last town or settlement in Wales to be granted a Royal Charter and King Henry, accompanied by his sixth wife Queen Katherine Parr, visited the town to make amends for the situation!

Over 20 typical Tudor activities in a market scene were re-created to the delight of the throng of visitors from far and wide. The public enjoyed the royal day to the full, soaking up both the Tudor atmosphere and a brilliantly sunny day for seven hours of historical fun and learning.

Coun David Unwin – the event organiser – remarked on the vast number of young children attending the event who, he said, delighted in seeing the King and Queen paying a visit to every street in town, handing out golden 'money' to all 'needy youngsters'!

Coun Unwin said: "It was a pleasure to see the delight on the faces of all visitors who became thoroughly absorbed in this unique historical event for Bridgend. The several sessions of Tudor storytelling inside Carnegie House were particularly well-attended and the four historical tours of the town – led by John Dunkley-Williams of the local History and Family Library – were very popular."

The opportunity for visitors to view the interior of the oldest dwelling house in Bridgend – St John's House on Newcastle Hill built around 1500 – was



explored by around 120 people, a record for any open day arranged by the current committee of restorers led by Ken Hinton.

King Henry gave audience to 'the common people' on three occasions in Dunraven Place when the granting of the Charter document was received by the Mayor of Bridgend, Coun Robert Morgan; and the King invited questions from the assembled throng on all matters of concern to citizens of any age. A lively discussion ensued on each occasion.

Local Town Crier Graham Vedmore led the royal couple around town for the entire seven hours in a splendidly raucous fashion; his voice getting shriller by the minute!

Coun Unwin paid tribute to Rob Butler, of Historical Promotions Management, for engaging a fine selection of authentic exhibitors who entranced the public – and to Nigel Kinsey, the Bridgend Town Council Clerk and his dedicated staff of seven for the event, which had been nine months in the planning.

"Bridgend officially came alive in 1516. Some 500 years on, it was seen to be embracing a re-enactment of that vibrancy," said Coun Unwin.

## 'Brenda's Boys' raise over £3,000 for the Alzheimer's Society



**ON the evening of Friday, September 16 the Ladies' Harmony Choir from Maesteg held a concert at Heol-y-Cyw Workingmen's Sports and Social Club – to celebrate the end of fundraising efforts in aid of the Alzheimer's Society, the club's chosen charity for 2015-16.**

Thanks to the generosity of club members, friends and the wider community, a grand total of over

£3,000 has been raised over the year.

To contribute to the fundraising, Brenda's Boys (Alex Williams, Gareth Williams and Jeremy Young) ran the 2015 Cardiff Half Marathon and 2016 Edinburgh Marathon, and the club also

devoted all funds raised from its 2015 annual Gambo Race to the cause.

The cheque, for the final instalment of £1,800, was received by Lorna Lewis and Lucy Davies of the Bridgend branch of the Alzheimer's Society.

## Pensions protest

**OGMORE MP Chris Elmore and Huw Irranca-Davies AM joined campaigners from WASPI (Women Against State Pension Inequality) at their rally at the Senedd and march to the Wales Office in Cardiff.**

They were protesting against changes made to state pensions of those born in the 1950s.

## Alfie's Angels training hard for half marathon



**Emma Lambert (centre), Sarah Edwards (in pink jacket) with Gareth Thomas.**

**A GROUP of ABMU staff are training hard for next month's Cardiff Half Marathon, under the watchful eye of Gareth (Alfie) Thomas.**

Eve Jeffery, Ceri Jones, Samantha John, Ruth Gates, Helen Jones and Kay Myatt, all based at Morriston Hospital, make up the Morriston Minors who were selected to be part of the 100-strong group featuring in a new four-part series 'Gareth Thomas: Alfie's Angels'.

They have taken part in group sessions hosted by the former Wales captain, with team building exercises and regular training runs.

Eve, Ceri, Sam and Helen were doing the Swansea Bay 10K on Sunday as part of their training wearing their distinctive Alfie's Angels T-shirts. You can support them at [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/The-Morriston-Minors](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/The-Morriston-Minors).

Also lining up among the Angels was Emma Lambert, a healthcare support worker with the rehab and recovery mental health service's

criminal justice team, and her cousin Sarah Edwards who is a health visitor at Cornelly Clinic.

Sarah suffers from fibromyalgia and was the driving force behind their application. Now they are proud members of the team Sarah's Strollers.

Emma said: "Sarah used to be very active and has used this process to start moving again and move the rest of us."

"I joined in, thinking we would never be picked. I had never done any running before and was terrified when we were chosen."

She said she has joined a running club and a gym which has helped support her through her journey to fitness.

"I have found the training really tough but I've plodded on through and completed a run at Cardiff Castle with the rest of the Angels and ran the whole way which has amazed me."

She added: "I always thought I was pretty athletic and fit for a larger lady until I began this adventure. I will be continuing to run and am already looking at other events to participate in with some of the Angels next year."

## Who wants to build what, and where, in Bridgend?

Mr Kelvin Lock – **Rear of Cefn Coed 21, Derllwyn Road, Tondur** – Reduce height of oak tree by 25 per cent and remove limbs overhanging rear lawn.

Steven Martin – **37 Princess Street, Maesteg** – Flat roof garage extension to rear garden.

Mrs E Austin – **1 Glanogwr Court, Church Road, Bridgend** – Single storey glazed extension to rear.

Owen G Motors – **Owen G Motors Ltd, Dunraven Business Park, Bridgend** – Retention of two by box locker units on western elevation of the unit.

Gareth Ames – **Ael y Bryn, Mill View Estate, Maesteg** – Two storey extension to side elevation, raising of part front lower roof and rear annexe roof structures.

Mr Alwyn Evans – **Horeb Baptist Church, Dinam Close, Nantymoel** – Side and rear walls to be clad, repaired and painted to prevent further water ingress. Repoint front wall with a lime-based material.

Mark John – **42 Heol y Mynydd, Brynceithin** – Non-material amendment to P/16/415/FUL – reposition of window/patio door and new roof light.

Homestyle Care Ltd – **Land off Cwrt Newydd, Broadlands, Bridgend** – Twelve one-bedroom units and two two-bedroom units (14 total) for supported living (amended plans and information received September 6, 2016).

Valleys to Coast Housing – **Various addresses on Glanforngw Estate, Wildmill** – Proposed EWI refurbishment and external treatments to the Valleys to Coast Wildmill estate. Mr Anthony Smith – **Rear of 16 High Street, Ogmere Vale** – Non-material amendment to P/15/326/FUL: amend layout of flat and add obscure glazing to windows in the side elevation.

Mr Bobby Dugmore – **19 Talbot Street, Maesteg** – Approval of details for conditions 1 and 2 of

P/16/393/FUL. Police and Crime Commissioner S Wales – **South Wales Police Headquarters, Cowbridge Road, Bridgend** – Construction of a single storey care building with ancillary space for use by South Wales Police.

Mr Justin Allen – **159 West Road, Nottage, Porthcawl** – Crown lifting of two sycamore trees and one sweet chestnut tree, involving the removal of two lower branches on each tree.

Matthew James – **15 Homfray Street, Nantyllyon, Maesteg** – Two storey addition to rear including dormer extension to rear roof.

Oldcastle Junior School – **Oldcastle Junior School, South Street, Bridgend** – Placement of a shipping container for general storage purposes.

Robert Loyns – **36 Fairplace Close, Broadlands, Bridgend** – First floor extension.

S&G Soils Ltd – **124 Village Farm Industrial Estate, Pyle, Bridgend** – Two-storey steel framed extension to provide additional office/staff facilities.

Mr K Day – **The Vetz Snooker club, Oxford Street, Pontycymmer** – Creation of new external amenity area through remodelling of existing floorspace.

Mr Ian Jones – **Bryngwyntog, Hendre Road Lane, Coity** – Prior notification for replacement agricultural building.

Mr Viv Hughes – **Land at Maesgwyn House, Blackmill Road, Brynceithin** – Residential development of four detached houses and garages.

Beechurst Homes – **Land adjacent Woodstock Stud, Mountain Lane, Llangeinor** – Reserved matters for two detached dwellings (layout, materials and landscape).

Penybont Real Estate Co Ltd – **45b John Street, Porthcawl** – Provision of a first floor area to existing office.

Master MJ Poole – **6 Monks Close, Pyle** – Single storey extension for bedroom and ensuite shower room.



# YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE THE COMMUNITY NEWS



Musical director Eira Paskin and accompanist Gareth Waite with the Ogmores choir.

## Ogmores Valley Choir concert ON Saturday evening, I attended the annual concert at Ogmores Valley Male Voice Choir's wonderful rehearsal/concert hall, the Canolfan Bethlehem.

Also taking part was Millhouse Green male voice choir, which had travelled down from Yorkshire the day before.

The concert raised money for a children's charity and Ogmores choir had chosen 'Anfonaf Angel', very appropriate for young children; it also sang 'Don't go Chasing Shadows', which had been written in remembrance of the tragedy at Aberfan on October 9, 1966.

Millhouse choir had taken the trouble to learn 'Myfanwy' and 'Gwahoddiad', and it put so much effort into joining Ogmores choir when singing these.

The concert supported Teenage Cancer Trust and its representative was presented with a cheque for £500. The charity has 28 centres in the UK, but only one in Wales.

It is the only charity dedicated to improving quality of life and chances of survival for seven youngsters aged between 13 and 24, diagnosed with cancer every day. It builds specialist units in NHS hospitals to treat the youngsters.

**Mayor's fund**  
THE Mayor of Maesteg's fund was launched in 2013 to raise funds in support

of community services or charities that provide care or assistance to residents in the Llynfi Valley.

Over the last three years, the fund has raised over £14,000, donated to a number of local causes.

The current mayor, Coun Jennifer Terry has nominated Macmillan Cancer Support, Diabetes Wales, Caerau Community Growers and Noddfa Youth to benefit from the fund.

The first major fundraising event is a Macmillan coffee morning on Friday, September 30 at the council offices at Maesteg between 10am and 2pm, where you can join the Mayor for coffee and cakes in the historic council chamber. Entertainment will be provided by members of the

Maesteg Gleemen male voice choir and local historian, Roy Meredith, will provide fascinating historical information about the building.

On Friday, October 7 at 2pm there will be a duck race on the river above Brewer's field off Caerau Road in Caerau (opposite the Blaenllynfi Hotel). Ducks can be purchased from Noddfa Youth or the council offices for £1, with a first prize of £50, second of £30 and third of £10.

**Fit for music**  
ALL residents from the Communities First postcode areas are cordially invited to have great fun with their friends and family getting fit to music created with specific beats and tempo changes, which targets every muscle group in the body with free Zumba sessions!

These will take place at Evergreen Hall, Bridgend, on Friday, September 23 and 30 from 6pm to 7pm. Advance booking is required by telephoning Graham on 07815 527136.

At the YMCA, Angel Street, Bridgend there will be an emergency paediatric first aid course (Level 3) which tells you what to do if you see a child in need of first aid, which could mean the difference between life and death. This is tomorrow, Friday September 23 from 9.15am to 3pm.

On Monday, September 26 there is a food safety course (Level 2) from which you will be qualified to prepare, store and re-heat food safely. Advance booking required by calling Jess on 01656 643634.

At Caerau Development Trust there are healthy cooking sessions, to show how to make easy-to-cook recipes on Friday, September 30 from 10am to 12pm. Advance booking required by telephoning Jeremy on 01656 643518. All courses are free.

**Mynydd Cynffig WI**  
THE branch meeting was held at Talbot Centre, Prince Road,

Kenfig Hill, CF33 6ED on September 13 chaired by Marjorie Goode (president).

Venues for the Christmas dinner and ideas for the Christmas party were discussed and, WI business over, there was a very interesting talk by Dean Powell on The Houston Brothers. Next month has a talk by Ann Cullen: 'Make your own rug' (2.30pm to 4.30pm).

Members also meet in the Life Centre for craft on the first, fourth and fifth Tuesdays of the month, if there is one and Scrabble on the same Tuesdays (they meet on the third Tuesday as well). Visitors and new members are welcome.

**Tondu Primary School**

HEADTEACHER Susan Pilsher invites parents and carers of pupils in Mrs Pugh's class, Garw, to take part in the assembly on Friday, September 30 at 10.20am and have a cuppa in aid of Macmillan.

To take part in the open door historic buildings all classes in Key Stage 2 (Llynfi, Ogwr, Rhondaf, Taf, Tawe and Usk) will be visiting Tondu Methodist Church this Friday, September 23 for a short session.

They will be walking there, so please ensure you have returned the letter giving permission for local visits this school year.

They will have lunch in school and the final class will return by the end of the school day.

Please ensure that they have suitable clothing for walking and for the weather that day. Offers of help for an hour would be appreciated. Please see your child's teacher.

The school will be holding parents' evenings on September 27 and 29 to discuss how their child is settling into their class and what their targets for the year will be. There will be no clubs after school.

Helping Hands is held every Tuesday at 9.30am - 10.30am at Heol Persondy. This is an informal group

## NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.

I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: **CLIVE MITCHELL**

1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ

TEL: 01656 725399

email: tynycoed1@yahoo.co.uk



Millhouse musical director Sue Christie and accompanist Philip Sutcliffe.

meeting and an ideal opportunity for new parents, relatives and carers to get to know other parents while helping to prepare resources for the children.

If you or your family would like to join helping hands in Heol Persondy School, the school would appreciate the support.

**Coffee time**  
CEFN Cribwr village is again this year supporting the world's biggest coffee morning for Macmillan on Friday, September 23.

It is inviting members of the public to pop into the Green Hall (the Community Centre) from 9.30am to 1pm for a cuppa and a chat, plus there will be jewellery, gifts, skincare, beauty products, therapies and craft stalls.

For more information, contact the organiser Mandy at email: lilacpage@sky.com or telephone 07917 097975.

Cefn Cribwr Athletic Club is supporting the world's biggest coffee morning on Saturday, October 1. There will be tonnes of cake and gallons of tea and coffee and stronger drinks available behind the bar! Everyone is welcome to both venues.

**Youth theatre CURTAIN-UP Youth Theatre, which is assisted by only four adults, is putting on a concert to raise funds for the charity Action For Children, at the Central Ecumenical Church, Church Street, Maesteg on September 28 starting at 7pm, to raise funds for the charity.**

Tickets cost £3 obtainable from Curtin-UP members, Ruth by telephone on 07772 645085 or church dignitary Marion.

Action For Children helps many disadvantaged children and young people who have complex and challenging needs. It not only works closely with the individual and their immediate family, but with other professionals they may be in contact with - such as teachers or social workers.

In 2015 'Action for Children' helped 390,000 children in the UK.

**Memorial concert**  
BRIDGEND male voice choir's next concert in the Bridgend area is at the Tabernacle Chapel in Pontycymer - the venue for the Merlyn Maddock MBE Memorial Concert, supporting sufferers of Parkinson's disease.

The complete tomorrow (Friday, September 23 at 7pm) is Bridgend-born BBC presenter Huw Edwards, who is making a welcome return to Pontycymer.

Merlyn's interesting life and achievements will give Huw plenty of material for what is anticipated to be a very interesting contribution.

The entertainment will be provided by Bridgend Male Choir, of which Huw Edwards is a patron; harp and vocal trio Eos, and the school choir of Ffaldau Primary.

Tickets are £5, obtainable from Dave and Joan Davison on 01656 658273.

On October 8 the choir will be at All Saints' Church, Porthcawl with the concert starting at 7pm. There will also be a guest male choir, Four

Lanes from Redruth, Cornwall, with soprano Rhian Hughes taking the solo artist spot. The concert is being held in support of Marie Curie Cancer Care. Tickets from Helen Thomas email: bandmariecurie@gmail.com.

**Open doors**  
THIS year, Tondur Methodist Church will again be participating in the 'Open Doors' scheme run by CADW in Wales.

Each year a theme is chosen that has some relevance to the local community and on September 23 - 24 from 10am to 3pm the church will host a celebration of local crafts.

There will be displays by individuals and organisations showcasing the variety of craft activity in the village and surrounding area.

Crafts featured include weaving, spinning, quilts, model boats, model railways, paper crafts and fabric crafts.

There will also be a display of old photographs. Entrance is free. Refreshments will be available on both days.

Also during the weekend, the church will be decorated with flowers, fruit and vegetables for the traditional Harvest Festival services.

This Sunday, September 25 there is a parade and family service at 10.30am and a traditional harvest festival service at 2.30pm followed by a harvest tea, with the presentation of an award by the Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales.

## Porthcawl artists put their work on show at the Senedd

TO celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Porthcawl Art Society, Bridgend AM Carwyn Jones hosted a special exhibition of their artwork at the National Assembly for Wales last week.

On display in the Oriel at the Senedd in Cardiff

Bay were some of the society's best paintings, including watercolour, oil, acrylic, and pastel paintings.

Assembly Members, support staff, Assembly Commission staff and many visitors to the Assembly all had the opportunity to work that included seascapes, floral pictures, local scenes, and wildlife.

First Minister Carwyn Jones reported: "It was a real treat to have the artwork on display at the Senedd. There were some amazing paintings and I had quite a few favourites.

"The artists are very talented and there was much high praise for their work. I know they will have gained a whole new fan base, as many people took away literature about the society.

"The society members could only show a fraction of their work. At their home in John Street, they have more than 100 paintings and I would encourage people to pop in the next time they are in Porthcawl, as they will be in for a treat."

Mr Jones added: "I was also delighted to welcome members of the Porthcawl Museum to the Senedd. They had posters on display about the museum. It continues to go from strength to strength and is a fantastic asset to the town of Porthcawl. They were there to support the art society."

## "Listen very carefully..."

**MEMBERS of P h o e n i x Theatre.com** Porthcawl are currently being transported to occupied France for their 21st production - the very funny 'Allo 'Allo.

Rehearsals are well under way and to say the members of the cast are enjoying themselves is putting it mildly!

The stage play is based on the hugely successful British television series and follows the adventures of

hapless café owner René. All the old favourites are there.

After their first production which took place at the Glamorgan Holiday Home in 2001, Phoenix Theatre transferred to the stage of the Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl, in 2002 and have performed there every year since to great acclaim.

'Allo 'Allo runs from October 13 to 15 and tickets can be obtained by calling 01656 783647 or from the Pavilion box office. A treat not to be missed!

Go to the **The GEM** for the latest stories and breaking news...  
[www.bridgend-today.co.uk](http://www.bridgend-today.co.uk)  
[www.porthcawl-today.co.uk](http://www.porthcawl-today.co.uk)



## ARTIST PAYS TRIBUTE TO FORMER TEACHER



ON Monday, September 19, amateur artist Tracey Walmsley presented artwork to Andrew Ridley at the Royal Oak Inn, Porthcawl, accompanied by the Mayor and Mayoress of Porthcawl, Rob and Ann Lee.

Her drawing of the building was dedicated to the memory of John Murphy, her former schoolteacher at Porthcawl Comprehensive in the 1970s, who was an inspiration to her.

He died earlier this year and Tracey gave a heartfelt speech of appreciation.

HAYLEY WILLIAMS

## Sophia's top marks in literature exam



Sophia with her English teachers, Mrs Burns and Miss Rolls.

ST CLARE'S sixth former, Sophia Campion, had one of the top marks across the whole of the UK in one of her recent AS level exams, scoring 117/120 in her English literature unit 1 examination.

Rhodri Jones, English subject officer for the Welsh examining board WJEC, wrote to St Clare's to say: "Sophia did extremely well and there was only a very small number that achieved that mark, or better, in this summer's exam for Unit 1. It also suggests that she's been taught well during the year so I'm sure that you must be very pleased. Pass on my congratulations to her."

Sophia, who joined St Clare's from the Cathedral School, Cardiff, is applying to the University of Bristol to read mathematics. Her ambition is to be an RAF pilot.

Kelly Burns, teacher of English and head of faculty at St Clare's School, said: "This is an amazing achievement, Sophia has been a star!"

Headmaster Simon Antwis said: "We're all

extremely proud of Sophia. She has worked very hard. Her results are directly attributable not only to the dedication and perseverance of Sophia herself, but also to the quality of teaching delivered here at St Clare's."

## Firefighters battle huge blaze in Coity



The Blaze started in the early hours of Monday morning.

South Wales Fire and Rescue Service were called to a refuse fire at South Wales Wood Recycling Ltd in Coity at around 3.30am on Monday, September 19.

At first the Fire Service responded with one appliance, but it became apparent that it was a deep seated fire of approx 3,000 tons of wood chip with a stack size of 15 metres high by 20 metres, by 100 metres.

Yesterday, September 21, a spokesman said: "Over the period of the last two days South Wales Fire and Rescue Service (SWFRS) has responded with a constant 24-hour attendance of 70 front line appliances, three water bowsters, one hoselayer, one hydraulic platform, one high volume pump, an environmental unit, a welfare unit and 29 tactical officers on a rotational basis.

"On site multi-agency meetings have been carried out on a regular basis with Welsh Water, National

Resources Wales, Public Health Wales, Site Owners, Police and SWFRS.

"SWFRS has found it extremely challenging to locate sustainable water sources to resolve the incident, however we now have secured a sustainable water supply from the River Ogmore approximately four away from the incident, using a high volume pump.

"A water relay has been established from the river to the scene of operations using service water bowsters.

"The SWFRS aim is to extinguish the fire using FRS resources and on site plant and machinery. It is likely this operation will take a number of days to achieve."

An investigation is on-going to establish cause in consultation with other agencies

If members of the public have any information, they should contact South Wales Police.

## Cornelly wood-recycling plant plan 'withdrawn'

REGIONAL Welsh Conservative AM Suzy Davies has welcomed news South Wales Wood Recycling (SWWR) has withdrawn its planning application to open a new centre in South Cornelly.

Ms Davies said: "It is unclear at the moment whether SWWR will subsequently re-apply but I am sure that the campaigners in Cornelly and Porthcawl will carry on drawing up their case against these plans. I had already objected to this proposal on the grounds of dust, noise and other health threats."

She made her comments shortly after a fire broke out at the company's facility in Coity, Bridgend, in the early hours of Monday, September 19. Hundreds of tonnes of woodchip were destroyed in the blaze.

"But the possibility of a fire breaking out in these woodchip piles has been brought sharply into focus by the fire that has taken place this week at their depot near Heolycyw.

"This is the third fire that this firm has suffered over the past year at their various sites so the fears of Cornelly residents on this score would appear to be justified."

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For more information or to arrange a school visit please contact Mrs Margaret Stephens (Admissions Registrar)  
on 01874 615440 or email admissions@christcollegebrecon.com



# Musketeers march on Porthcawl Museum



LAST weekend it was 'Open Doors Day' organised by Cadw, the Welsh Government's historic environment service.

The day offers local people and visitors the chance to explore the treasures of Wales' culture and history.

Porthcawl Museum marked the day when, on Saturday, September 17, The Marcher Stuarts set up camp at the museum. They are a living history and military group who entertain and, hopefully, educate the public while enjoying themselves.

During the day hundreds visited the museum to watch the Marcher Stuarts demonstrate crafts and games from the period and to see them practice with their muskets as well as shoot arrows and brandish swords.

It was a very busy and enjoyable day. Sian Parsons, one of the Marcher Stuarts commented: "A big 'thank you' from the Marcher Stuarts for the welcome we received today from the museum and the people of Porthcawl who looked after us. We couldn't ask for better hosts, and had an amazing day! We hope to work with the museum once more in the future."



Photos by David Swidenbank  
www.thedogphotographerwales.com



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Cdt Flt Sgt Morris was one of just Ramstein Air Base and the 40 cadets from the UK – and the Luftwaffe's Büchel Air Base.

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## Kayak sea fishing first for Barry's blue shark hunters



Mike and Greg head out in search of Blue Sharks



A successful shark catch – which was released back into the sea. IMAGES by DAVE LEWIS

by GEM REPORTER

A BARRY man and his friend from Cardiff have notched up a record-breaking first – fishing for blue sharks in the Celtic Deeps.

Mike Burnett (45) and Greg Bowes (60) planned the adventure after one of their less taxing fishing trips out in the Bristol Channel.

Mike explained: "We were at Sully Yacht Club and chatted about catching sharks, and were both keen to have a go."

"We wanted to do something a bit more

challenging than the standard fishing we were used to."

The men were able to charter a boat – Lady Jue 5 – with another keen fisherman Rob Rennie.

Mike went on: "The adventure involved a trip out of Milford Haven marina on August 13 at 6am."

"On the day there were large swells and big waves so it was quite a slog to our destination."

On board were Mike, Greg, Rob, some friends keen to fish

from the boat, and Dave Lewis and Paul Fenech who wanted to record the day for Sea Angler Magazine.

Mike said: "We were heading for an area 35 miles off Milford Haven called the Celtic Deeps. It took us around two hours to get there."

Rob Rennie set the baits. Ryan Bowes hooked the first shark, followed by Breandan Geach and Paul Fenech. Philip Bowes caught the biggest blue shark on the day – 96lbs.

"Greg and I kitted up and then launched the kayaks. There were 20-plus sharks caught on the day and we were the first kayak anglers to catch blue sharks in the Celtic Deeps."

"It was a sporting challenge and the sharks were released back into the sea."

The lads are featured

in the latest edition of Sea Angler Magazine. Mike has a YouTube channel 'Hookline andstinker' where people can view his fishing adventures.

To watch 'Kayak Blue Shark Fishing Celtic Deeps' go to: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=oxMCDUP2SsI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oxMCDUP2SsI)

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# Former soldier issues plea for Armed Forces drop-in centre

by GEM REPORTER



Robert Adams with best friend Mazey.

**A former soldier has called for a 'drop-in centre' to be opened in Barry for Vale Armed Forces' veterans.**

Robert Adams (54), who was in the Royal Engineers and served in the UK, Germany and Northern Ireland, said he had been angry to see the Vale Council recently publishing an Armed Services Covenant meeting.

"I think it is hypocrisy that the council signs up to the Covenant and we haven't even got a drop-in centre for local veterans."

"All we would need would be a couple of rooms – somewhere we could meet up one day a week, make tea or coffee, and have a speaker along to talk about a relevant issue like housing."

"In England, there are local authorities that have signed the Covenant and they provide mini-buses, day trips and priority housing – you don't see that in the Vale."

*The Armed Forces Covenant is a promise from the nation that those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces, and their families, are treated fairly.*

Mr Adams estimates there could be around 1,300 to 1,500 former services personnel in the Vale – a fertile recruiting ground over the decades – and he thinks veterans should have a regular point of contact where they can discuss their experiences and find out what help is available.

Mr Adams suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), a neck injury, spinal problems, loss of hearing, and he suffered a bullet wound in Northern Ireland.

When he wanted to return home to the Vale from the West Midlands

four years ago, he says he was told by housing officials that he had little chance of getting a property.

"Although I was originally from the Vale and had letters from the housing officer, a psychiatrist and a GP in Kidderminster, I was considered a low priority and given 'bronze' status."

"I moved in to private rented accommodation in Barry, thanks to a family friend. The council will find properties and provide support for refugees you can guarantee that."

"The Vale Council should have staff who are

pro-active and employed as outreach workers to make contact with veterans before they have breakdowns."

"Many veterans are returning from Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria with PTSD."

## GENERATIONS

Mr Adams said he was speaking up, not just for the present generation of soldiers, but future ones – because he thinks that with the spread of ISIS HM Armed Forces are likely to be involved in military conflicts in the future.

In 2012, a Healthcare Inspectorate Wales report looked into the health care received by veterans in Wales, and among the contributors was a Vale veteran who said he would like to see a drop-in centre opened locally.

The Vale Council has said it supports the 'Count Them In' campaign, which calls on the UK Government to include specific questions relating to military personnel in the next UK Census.

The charity Change Step, which offers 'veteran-to-veteran' support over issues such as housing and mental health, has lobbied Parliament to help track down servicemen and

women who may need help, but are falling through the net.

David Ireland of Change Step told The GEM he had recently been to Westminster to appeal to MPs for information to be sent out to the general population asking whether they had ever been a member of the Armed Forces and what sort of help might they need.

He said that since 2015, he had five referrals of people who needed help in the Barry area, but that there may be others.

A Vale Council spokesman said: "In 2011 the council launched the first Armed Forces Covenant in Wales. In doing so, we committed ourselves to ensuring that those who serve, or have served, in the Armed Forces are in no way disadvantaged when accessing council services."

"Further to this we work to enable not just serving and former members of the Armed Forces, but also their families, to easily access the help and support they are entitled to."

## Caring Jeni an instant hit!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Having cared for her mother for several years and worked in various homes back in the USA, she immediately looked for a similar position in the Maesteg area, and after a short spell at a Bridgend home, became a care assistant at Bryn Celyn, part of the Hallmark Care Homes group.

"Caring is my passion and I want to train as a care practitioner. I have to have been in this country for three years before I can go to nursing college," she said.

General manager Mary Richard,

who nominated Jeni for the award, said that everyone had taken to her and she was capable of leading and inspiring others to greater excellence in their particular roles: "This unique approach has resulted in her being singled out as someone who can achieve much in the care profession," she said.

Jeni is particularly skilled in the field of manual handling and is responsible for training at Bryn Celyn.

"Having sat through a full day listening to Jeni teaching all aspects of manual handling I was left in

awe of her preparation and competence to deliver a fantastic course," said Mary.

"Given the cultural differences, which are not to be dismissed, between the USA and the Welsh valleys, it stands as testimony to Jeni that she has fitted in so amiably and professionally within her role."

Jeni, whose husband is an environmental health officer with Carmarthenshire County Council, said she enjoyed all aspects of the job.

She added that she had been struck by the difference in attitude

between staff in care homes on different sides of the Atlantic.

"In the States, caring is seen simply as a job to earn money, whereas here, people really care for the residents. It's a lovely atmosphere in which to work," she said.

In her spare time Jeni relaxes by playing the guitar and walking her Cockapoo Jarvis, who often visits Bryn Celyn.

"The residents make a big fuss of him," she said.

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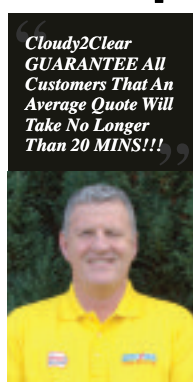


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## Helping hand for the lonely

AGE CONNECTS is appealing for volunteers to befriends lonely, elderly people as part of its Good Neighbours scheme in the Vale.

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## Astronomy corner: October's night skies

**What's up?**  
MANY of us are familiar with the regular sightings of Mars, Venus, Jupiter and even Saturn in our night skies, but how many of us can lay claim to have spotted Mercury?

This elusive planet orbits so close to the sun that opportunities for sighting it are very rare indeed. Mercury, the smallest planet in our solar system, swings to its greatest elongation from the sun on September 28 and presents a fine morning apparition over the Eastern horizon.

On September 29, 60 minutes before sunrise, it is easily identifiable from its location just above the left horn of



Dr Chris North from 'Sky at Night'.

the crescent moon. It remains visible as a pre-dawn object for the first two weeks of October, culminating in a very close proximity to Jupiter on October 11. Jupiter, by the way, is a fine sight through a standard pair of binoculars, particularly during night appearances.

Look for the four Galilean moons strung out in a line to the left and right of the planet's disc (one or two may be hidden behind the

planet, however).

As always, never look directly at the sun through a pair of binoculars.

**What's on?**  
BRIDGEND

Astronomical Society is putting on an astronomical event at Pencoed Public Library on Saturday, October 22, between 2.30pm and 4.30pm.

Need advice on fixing or setting up your telescope? Bring it along and we'll try to help you. There will also be exhibitions, demonstrations, videos and lots more. This is a free community event open to all.

Dr Chris North, a frequent guest presenter of the BBC's *The Sky at Night*, will be discussing *Telescopes Through the Ages* at BAS' monthly meeting in Pyle Church Hall on the evening of October 14 from 7.30pm. Once again, everyone is welcome. Need more details? Visit [www.bridgendastronomicalsociety.co.uk](http://www.bridgendastronomicalsociety.co.uk)

### NEWS IN BRIEF

**VALEPLUS**, a local charity that provides lifelong learning and leisure opportunities for people with a learning difficulty, is holding its Hollywood-themed annual dinner dance on Friday, October 7 at the Brynhill Golf Club.

Tickets, £17.50 each, are available from ValePlus, 118A High Street, Barry, or from Nova or Cafe No 5, High Street.

Further details on the website [www.valeplus.org.uk](http://www.valeplus.org.uk) or on 01446746691.

### Cream tea

AT Trinity Church Day Centre, Penarth this Friday, September 23 from 2pm, there will be music, a sing-song, raffle and afternoon cream tea.

Join in the fun to help raise funds for the Penarth Live At Home Scheme; £3 per person.

## Green Flag People's Choice award opens

**NOMINATIONS** for the 'People's Choice' Green Flag award have opened and the public now have the opportunity to vote for their favourite park, giving it the chance of being named in the top 10 in the UK's open spaces.

This year, a record-breaking 161 parks and green spaces in Wales were awarded the prestigious international Green Flag Award.

Voting for the People's Choice

award closes at noon on Friday, September 30. This year, as it is the 20th year of the Green Flag award, there will not be one overall winner, but a top 10 voted for by the public.

The top ten parks and green spaces in the UK will be announced in October.

To vote, go to [www.greenflagaward.org](http://www.greenflagaward.org), select Wales on the interactive map, find your favourite park or green space, click on 'more details', then click the 'vote for this site' button.

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## A reader's ode to The GEM!

*I LOVE to read The GEM each week with its jolly, colourful pages,  
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### Talk on Island Farm escape

THE great Island Farm PoW escape features in a talk by local historian Mike Clubb today (Thursday, September 22) at 7.30pm at St Donat's Arts Centre.

The story of the daring Bridgend escape by German prisoners during World War II, was "one of incompetence and ineptitude".

In March 1945, 67 prisoners escaped, and spread across Glamorgan and Gwent. Four got as far as Southampton, and four to Birmingham. All were recaptured within 10 days. Contact [www.sidonats.com](http://www.sidonats.com) or call 01446 799100.

## New service to help vulnerable elderly



**Richard Williams from Action on Hearing Loss Cymru, Older People's Commissioner for Wales Sarah Rochira, Ceri Jackson of RNIB Cymru, and Chris Jones, Chief Executive of Care and Repair.**

**A NEW service by Care & Repair Cymru, Action on Hearing Loss Cymru and RNIB Cymru aims to help older people who live in poor housing and are frail, have dementia, sensory loss or are vulnerable in other ways.**

Caseworkers work with GPs, hospitals and social workers to reach older people most in need of help, to keep them safe, warm and independent at home.

Mrs Bickle (aged 85) from Bridgend said: "I've always stayed fit and active and until recently I regularly walked about four miles a day.

However, in recent years my health has started to deteriorate. I was diagnosed with age-related macular degeneration, cataracts and hearing loss, so my sight and hearing aren't good.

"I started to find it difficult to do day-to-day things like walk upstairs, have a shower, or cook myself a meal. I kept putting my hand on the top of the gas cooker as I couldn't see or hear the flame. I felt frustrated and anxious.

"Following an eye test, I was referred to RNIB's Managing Better service by the Princess of Wales Hospital ophthalmology department. My case worker, Sandy, got me a handrail on the stairs, brighter lights in the

kitchen and she has also encouraged me to get my ears tested and start wearing a hearing aid.

"Sandy even helped me find out that I should have been receiving benefits, which are a huge help and mean I'll be able to stay in my home much longer than I thought. I feel so much safer, and happier. I'm definitely managing better!"

Rebecca Evans, Minister for Social Services and Public Health said, "My ambition is to make Wales the best place to grow older in the UK. The Managing Better project is an important step in helping us achieve this vision.

"Working with a wide range of primary care

providers, hospitals, homes,

social care and third sector organisations, the service will help keep the people most in need of support safe, warm and independent in their own homes. "I am pleased the Welsh Government has been able to support this excellent service with funding of £1.25 million."

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## What's on, and where?

### Vale AM's surgery

THE Vale AM Jane Hutt will hold a surgery this Friday, September 23 from 10am – 11am at Age Connects Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry. No appointment necessary.

### Open Doors at The Hospice

OFTEN described as 'The Hospice', St John's House at Newcastle Hill, Bridgend is a protected Grade II\* listed building and is the oldest habitable dwelling in the town.

A spokesman said: "St John's House Trust has been formed with the intention of purchasing the property, preventing it being turned into flats and making it accessible to the public."

"As part of the annual open doors event, the house will be open to the public this weekend of September 24-25, when 'medieval' archers will demonstrate their skills and there will be an opportunity to try medieval games from 11am – 4pm on Saturday and Sunday.

### Farmers' Market in Porthcawl

THE next Porthcawl Farmers' Market will be on Saturday (September 24) from 9.30am to 12.30pm at the Awel y Mor Community Hall, off Wellfield Avenue, Porthcawl.

All of the regular producers will be in attendance with an array of quality locally produced foods. The market café will be open too.

If you are a locally based producer and are interested in taking a stall at the market, contact the market co-ordinator on 01656 658963.

### Diabetes screening

THE Llantwit Major and Cowbridge Lions Club will hold one of their regular diabetes screening sessions at Llantwit Major between 10am – 1pm this Saturday, September 24.

Anyone 16 or over can attend, free, to be tested by qualified nurses.

A coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Nurses, also in the Llantwit Major, will also take place. For more information see the Lions' website [www.lmancdclions.org.uk](http://www.lmancdclions.org.uk) or Facebook or Twitter.

### Coffee morning

A COFFEE morning will be held in the Lesser Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth on Saturday, September 24 from 10am until 12pm. Entry £1. Plenty of bargains for everyone. Come along and join us. All proceeds to Macmillan.

### Toy and train fair

A TOY and train fair takes place at Barry Leisure Centre, Greenwood Street, Barry, on Sunday, September 25 from 10.30am to 3pm.

A sister event, the Cardiff Toy and Train Fair, will take place at Penarth Leisure Centre on Saturday, October 8.

For further information, contact [www.chrisdyerfairs.co.uk](http://www.chrisdyerfairs.co.uk); call 01643 702757 or 07966 694579.

### Beach clean

THIS month's beach clean with Friends of Barry Beaches will be held on Sunday, September 25 at the Porthkerry Country Park, Barry, meeting at 3pm near the Forest Lodge.

The Friends will also be celebrating their sixth anniversary and any volunteers will be treated to coffee and cake to mark the occasion.

Litter pickers and bags will be provided, but wear suitable clothing and footwear. Children welcome, if accompanied by an adult.

### Charity fair

AT a toy and train fair on September 25 in Barry Leisure Centre (CF63 4RU) from 10.30am – 3pm, Cadroxton Youth Project will be fundraising for several charities, including Ty Hafan, Marie Curie and Y-Care International/YMCAs.

### Lunchtime music

ON Monday, September 26 at All Saints' Church, Penarth the Scott McNicholas Experience will perform songs from the '30s, '40s and '50s at Victoria Square from 1pm – 2pm.

Entry is free (although donations towards the organ restoration will be gratefully received).

Bring your own lunch; tea and coffee provided.

### Gardening club

THE next meeting of Cowbridge Gardening Club will be held on Thursday, September 29 at 7.30pm in the Lesser Hall, Cowbridge, when Rosie James of Cardiff Parks will speak on 'Victorian Parks'.

New members welcome.

### Help Macmillan

KPC Youth (next to Pil Primary) is holding a coffee morning from 9am – 10.30am on Thursday, September 29 in aid of Macmillan Cancer Relief.

They will be joined at 9.30am by the Pil Primary School choir, followed by fun bingo and a raffle.

Admission £1, includes coffee and biscuits; cake extra. Call 01656 749219/745399 for more information.

### Harvest Festival

NFU Cymru invites you to join them at this year's Glamorgan Harvest Festival on Thursday, September 29 at Margam Abbey, Margam, Port Talbot.

This year's service will start at 7.30pm and will be followed by light refreshments.

All welcome.

### Toy and Train sale

CARDIFF Toy and Train sale will be held on Saturday, October 8 at 10.30am – 3pm in Penarth Leisure Centre, Andrew Road, Cogan.

For full details, call 01643 702757 and 07966 694579 or website [www.chrisdyerfairs.co.uk](http://www.chrisdyerfairs.co.uk).

### Major Music is back

EVERY Tuesday from 6pm – 9pm at Llantwit Major Youth Centre (ages 11 – 25 only), just £1 per session, payable weekly.

Do you play a musical instrument, can you sing, or would you like to learn? Recording studio, musical instruments available; first session free.

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## BRIDGET RETAINS HER CHARM THIRD TIME AROUND..!

**B**RITAIN does a neat line in literary phenomenons – there's Harry Potter of course, and going back into the annals of time, JRR Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*; one of the biggest was Helen Fielding's *Bridget Jones's Diary* books and, unsurprisingly, much like the aforementioned stories, they found themselves reaching the big screen, starring Rene Zellweger as the titular character.

Twelve years after the slightly disappointing *Edge of Reason*, Bridget is back in *Bridget Jones's Baby*, helmed by the first film's director Sharon Maguire.

Bridget (again played by Zellweger) is single and focusing on her career, but that focus is soon shifted when she falls pregnant.

The only snafu is that she isn't sure who the father is – it could be her ex, Mark (Colin Firth), or it could be Jack (Patrick Dempsey)? With impending motherhood and the struggle of balancing two expectant fathers, will Bridget be able to cope?

When *Bridget Jones's Baby* opens with Bridget, sat cross-legged on her settee with a cupcake with a candle in it, lamenting a rubbish birthday to the strains of 'All By Myself', you get the horrible suspicion that this third outing may be a photocopied rehash of the first and second films.

However, once Bridget changes the music to House of Pain's 'Jump Around' it's a symbolic statement that ... *Baby* isn't here to simply show the greatest hits of the series so far in a new decade; and while it may occasionally resort to memories of past films, by and large this is a satisfying and pleasurable update on the (mis)adventures of an older, not necessarily wiser Bridget.

It may be 12 years since Renee Zellweger

last slipped into Bridget's big pants, but the time away hasn't dulled the actress' ability to bring her to life. Zellweger has had a quiet few years film-wise, but as a performer very rarely delivers a weak turn – and so it goes here.

Hurdling into her 40s as everyone around her seems to be married and expecting children, Bridget feels that the clock that seemed to be ticking way back when she first opened her Diary is now ready to go off. Zellweger hits her stride with a pleasingly enjoyable performance that sees Bridget attempt to shake off those blues with her friend, the wonderfully frank Miranda (played with no end of glee by the superb Sarah Solemani).

What follows is a trip to a music festival (featuring a rather shoehorned-in cameo by a certain ginger-haired singer) and the chance for Bridget to get her groove back on as she meets charming American Jack (a rather bland Patrick Dempsey).

Renewed, she then ends up succumbing to the stilted charms of Colin Firth's Mark, before discovering that she's pregnant and doesn't know who the father is.

What follows is the comedy of emotional and physical errors that have a certain resonance from the films of the past – the Jack/Mark duel for Bridget's affections apes, but pales, the similar triangle involving Jack and Hugh Grant's (sadly-missed) Daniel – but also updates for the new decade.

Certainly some of the elements clunk a little (Bridget's job is under threat from a new boss who wants the new channel she works for to dumb down, Mark is defending a Pussy Riot-like band who demand free speech) but there are some fine set-pieces and some really sparky lines; that, along with a love for these characters, shakes off a great deal of the elements that don't quite work.

While Zellweger excels in the title role, Colin Firth's stiff-



by  
**GARETH JAMIESON**  
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upper-lip gets an airing as he revisits the character of Mark, and their chemistry is as engaging as ever, while Emma Thompson comes close to stealing the film as Bridget's doctor, her series of one-liners easily raising the biggest laughs to be had.

But the key ingredient here feels like the return of Sharon Maguire to the director's chair. Having missed out on *The Edge of Reason*, Maguire gives a great deal of energy and charm to the film, and knows exactly when to

raise the emotional stakes and when to let the jokes drive the film.

*Bridget Jones's Baby* shouldn't work – after all it's 12 years since the last one, its premise hangs on a slightly-clichéd plot hook, and yet it dazzles you with its charm and likeability throughout.

It's not going to linger any longer than you let it, but seeing *Bridget Jones* again after all these years is like seeing an old friend for the first time in several years – you're more than happy they're back on the scene.

**VERDICT:** A likeable film that sees its charm propel it through the smallest of bumps, *Bridget Jones's Baby* is a pleasing film that works, thanks to the satisfying performances of the likes of Rene Zellweger and Colin Firth (with nods to Sarah Solemani and Emma Thompson as well).

The comedy is both touching and amusing and only the hardest hearts will find it anything less than delightful. *Enjoyable.*

**SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED:** *Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie* (2016), *Bridget Jones's Diary* (2002).

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Our proud tradition of sporting excellence means that our sportsmen and women regularly achieve regional, national and international honours, at an enviable range of sports.

Our exceptional range of activities beyond the classroom are central to life at the school; each year boasts a great repertoire of musical and drama performances, visits and activities.

Our facilities are state of the art. However, we dream big and then bigger again. Our ongoing capital development programme means our facilities and resources will remain amongst the very best in Wales.

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## Cathedral School Llandaff wins movie's golden ticket!

One of the golden tickets featured in the 1971 film *Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory* was on display at The Cathedral School, Llandaff last week.

In the story, five golden tickets, concealed in Wonka Bars, were to be won in a competition where the lucky winners were given a tour of Willy Wonka's factory.

The lucky owner, however, of Charlie's ticket is Cardiff-founded E-learning company, Avantis Systems Ltd, which acquired it at auction in New York from Bonhams Auction House last year.

And it was fitting that the ticket was on display for pupils at the Cathedral School, the school once attended by Roald Dahl, the author of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and many other tales, some of which are decidedly of the unexpected.

Clare Sherwood, head of the Cathedral School said: "We have been holding a series of events to mark the 100th anniversary of Roald Dahl who is our most famous former pupil."

"But having the actual golden ticket that



*Cathedral School pupil, Nathaniel Rawsley came to school dressed as Charlie Bucket and won the coveted golden ticket!*

appeared in the original film on display in the school was very special and a highlight of our celebrations of the extraordinary life of Roald Dahl.

"We are extremely grateful to Avantis for allowing the pupils, and staff, to get our hands on the sought after ticket."

Rupert Rawsley, technical director of Avantis, said: "We were extremely excited to take the original golden ticket to the Cathedral School on such a special day."

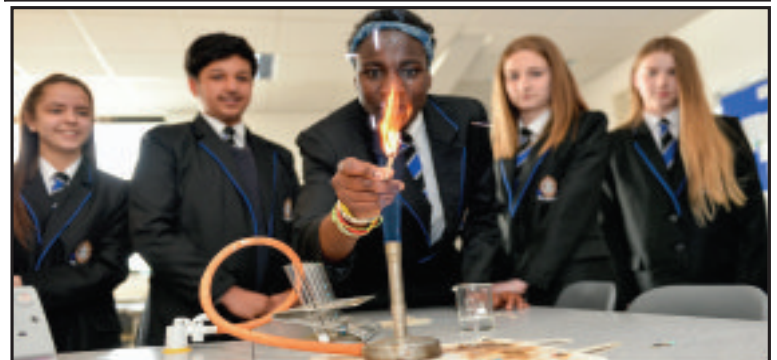
"Avantis was founded in Cardiff, so it seemed particularly fitting that the golden ticket should be at Roald Dahl's school to mark his centenary."

In addition to the golden ticket visit, staff and pupils at the Cathedral School dressed up as their favourite Roald Dahl characters and enjoyed a day of activities inspired by the school's most famous alumnus.

A peach tree was planted in the school grounds, the lunch menu, including wormy

spaghetti, fresh mud burgers and Wonka's Whipple Scrumptious Fudgemallow Delight was 'scrumdiddlyumptious' and all lessons had a Roald Dahl theme.

In physics, pupils tried to work out how many helium balloons it would take to lift a peach off the desk, in maths, students considered the odds of winning a golden ticket and the strains of the Oompaloompa songs resounded throughout the music department during the day.



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We invite families to apply for a place before the deadline of **Monday 28th November 2016**. In 2015, our Edfyn report noted the excellent pupil support, leadership and capacity for improvement; there were five excellent judgements in total and one of the best Edfyn reports in the region.

Our results in 2016 also continue to demonstrate outstanding pupil outcomes with 100% of pupils gaining 5 good GCSE grades (the only school in Cardiff to do so) and pupil progress in the top 10% in the UK. We continue to be proud of the achievements of all our pupils and are committed to outstanding attainment. We have been a top category school (3A) for three years, one of the few schools in Cardiff and Wales with such an honour.

Pupils at Mary Immaculate want to be successful and treat each other with respect, care and compassion.

These are the qualities to which we aspire and we expect them of all our pupils. Your child's education is unique. We are fully committed to delivering a high quality learning experience for all of our pupils and welcome the chance to meet all prospective parents.

"The Headteacher and senior leadership team communicate an extremely clear vision of excellence for the school that has, at its heart, the maximum achievement of all learners and their spiritual and moral development."

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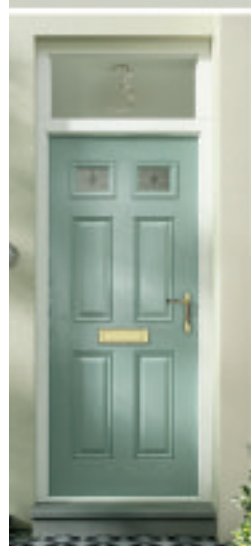


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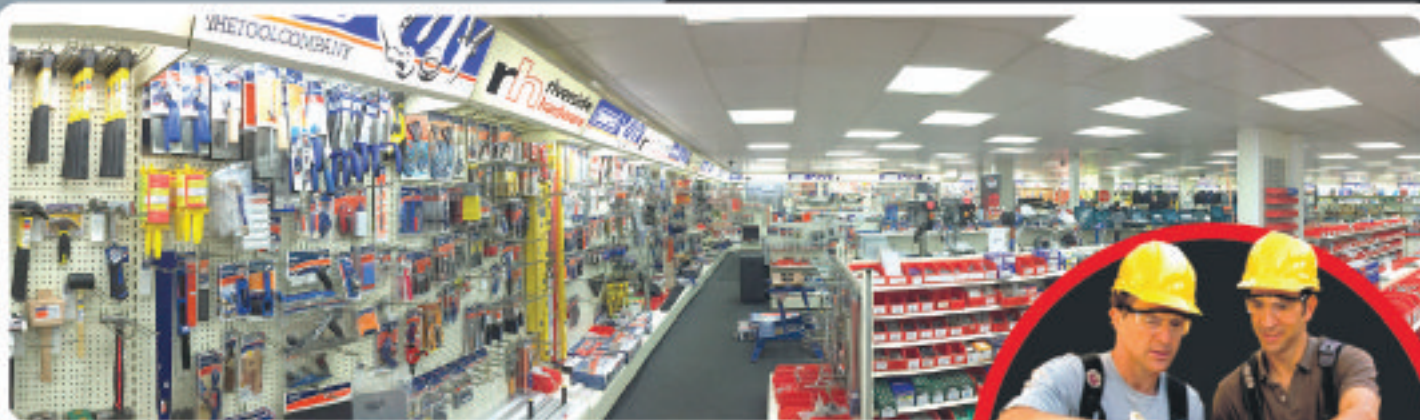
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# Penarth hospice lays on a special family party for marine commando Hywel to celebrate with grandad

**A GRANDFATHER** living with a terminal illness has praised staff at the Marie Curie Cardiff and Vale Hospice, after they planned a special tea party to celebrate his grandson's passing out parade.

Keith Morgan was joined by 15 members of his family at the charity's Penarth hospice after his grandson Hywel made it through his training for the Royal Marine Corps.

The 20-year-old, who is now a King's Royal Marine Commando, has been in training for 32 weeks, and his grandfather was initially planning to go to the parade having followed Hywel's training journey online.



Outfits were planned and the special occasion is all he and wife Carol had spoken about for weeks, but following complications resulting from his terminal bowel cancer, which saw Mr Morgan admitted to the

University of Wales Hospital in Cardiff, followed by his current stay at the hospice, he was unable to attend.

However, it was important for Hywel that his grandfather see him in the uniform.

Mr Morgan's daughter and aunt to Hywel, Joanne Flower, of Porthcawl, said: "My mum spoke to the sister and told her as soon as Hywel passes out, he wants to come straight to see his grandfather in his uniform."

"She asked if there was any way they could have a room."

But staff at the Marie Curie Hospice, which provides round-the-clock expert care and support,

went one better and decided they would help bring the whole family together in celebration.

Mr Morgan's wife, Carol, said she had offered to pay for the food, but the charity would not accept any money for the gesture. "I couldn't believe it," she said. "It's so kind and wonderful. Nothing is too much trouble for them."

"It's a great achievement," said a proud Mr Morgan, who is 71, and has been at the hospice for three weeks.

"I was amazed when I heard they would be putting this on. I thought my kids had organised it, but they

said it was all to do with Marie Curie."

Mrs Flower added: "They have just gone over and above what we expected, we were just so overwhelmed by the kindness."

Mr Morgan praised the charity and the hospice as a whole, describing his stay as "five star", from the care received from the nurses, to the food and even the view from his bedside. He said he and Mrs Morgan are now getting support at the hospice to make arrangements for his return home.

Hywel said he had found his training "challenging, but rewarding", and added

that he was amazed at what the hospice had done. He hopes to become a medic in the Royal Marine Corps.

His mum, Melanie and dad, Lee, were both grateful for the opportunity the hospice had given the family to express their pride in Hywel's achievement.

The family is now getting on board with fundraising for the Cardiff and Vale Hospice, with fellow grandson Jake Flower (17) getting ready to run the Cardiff Half Marathon in aid of the facility, which has given tremendous care and support to both Mr Morgan and to them as relatives.



## Opening of Arcot House, Penarth with 'Home Access'

**ON October 2, Arcot House will be officially opening during the annual harvest celebrations at Tabernacle Baptist Church.**

Home Access is an independent charity that works in partnership with Tabernacle Baptist to provide advice and support for those who are homeless or threatened with homelessness and it has moved its base over to the newly developed Arcot House which will also be home to Foodbank, Breakfast Club, Job Club and Money Management services.

The team will be moving towards opening

the Christians Against Poverty debt recovery project and addiction recovery projects over the next year.

As part of the Arcot House project, there is a five-bed accommodation project helping those who are currently homeless or vulnerably housed.

The Harvest Service and opening celebrations will be held at 10.30am on Sunday, October 2, and is followed by refreshments and a soup and sandwich lunch.

All are welcome to attend on October 2. For further details, contact info@tabspenarth.org.uk or call 029 2070 2690. SD

## Cardiff Airport reports 14% passenger rise

**CARDIFF Airport has announced that passenger figures for August have shown a rise of 14 per cent over the same period last year.**

The number of passengers flying from the UK's fastest growing airport at Rhosneigr (from September 2015-August 2016) was 1,347,392, (+30%).

Debra Barber, managing director said:

"As our partner airlines continue to invest in the country by establishing new routes, such as Flybe's recent Cardiff to London City launch, such activity strengthens our position within the market and allows us to offer the people of Wales more and more choice."

"We encourage the public to make the most of this convenient, cost-effective, and fast service to ensure this becomes a permanent business and leisure route."

## Self-taught artist lines up exhibitions



MP Alun Cairns with artist Mark Youd.

VALE abstract artist produces abstract, fragmented representations of the human face. He also has a new exhibition planned for November in central London's Mall Galleries.

Vale MP Alun Cairns, who recently visited the studio, said he was surprised to learn that Mark is self-taught, having become an artist just two years ago.

## Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

**THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D949.**

● **£2,000:** 305749.  
● **The rollover, which now stands at £3,500, was not won this week.**

● **£10:** 940183, 802663, 118618, 369910, 149763, 865247, 283645, 408192, 791044, 675705, 485313, 615856, 235284, 198508, 638098, 245497, 591301, 913438, 302, 5264.

● **£5:** 183905, 253455, 563856, 194840, 898408, 225183, 272786, 800632, 112255, 772040, 210243, 148974, 976087, 414481, 138322.

145373, 268206, 751369, 623269, 745263, 871656, 521203, 106209, 213232, 764581, 698241, 683917, 219671, 809020, 704022, 479045, 605242, 630467, 404032, 655852, 769580, 167597, 173123, 120540, 645244, 386626, 680383, 202309, 116628, 993366, 526368, 674277, 351543, 374451, 567646, 713511, 790285, 498691, 647084, 371331, 182, 186, 1090122, 1955988, 1173335.

**The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.**

**For lottery information, please telephone 029 2053 2300.**

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# CHURCH COMMUNITY JOIN REV HEATHER TO SAY THANKS FOR 10 VERY BUSY YEARS!



Rev Heather Weddell's 10 years at United Free Church, Cowbridge, were celebrated recently. (Picture by MIKE WILCOCK).

**THE Rev Heather Weddell recently celebrated with her fellowship a decade of ministry in Cowbridge United Free Church.**

The church is an ecumenical (inter-denominational) church and many developments have been completed in the 10 years.

The chapel and community café have been completely refurbished, the

church hall has been gutted and improved to create a lovely light and welcoming space and, just this year, the old rear hall has been demolished and replaced with a warm, bright comfortable space for groups and meetings.

Many people paid tribute to Heather on Sunday morning, September 11, and she in turn thanked the fellowship for its incredible support for the vision and work achieved in these 10 years.

## A CORNUCOPIA OF HARVEST DELIGHTS!



**'A veritable cornucopia' is not too extravagant a term to describe the amount and range of fruit, vegetables, herbs, bread and other produce that was on display in the former Church of St Lawrence at Lavernock last Sunday afternoon!**

This was a well-attended traditional harvest thanksgiving service in which Rev Mark Jones spoke of the origins of harvest celebrations; and scripture, poetry, hymns and prayers conveyed

some of the delights of autumn, as well as our responsibility towards those living in countries where the harvest has been poor.

Afterwards, those attending went home with bags of produce, and some £170 was donated towards the upkeep of the former church building.

The working party, which organised the magnificent display and everyone else who

brought or lent items, deserve a big 'thank you' for their time, effort and skill.

The St Lawrence at Lavernock Trust would also like to thank all who took part in the service, including the readers and the organist Anne Thomas, who inspired some enthusiastic hymn singing.

Well done, everyone.  
**REV MARGARET STARK**

For the latest stories and breaking news, visit our Twitter page...

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## Five go out for gold in Duke of Edinburgh Award celebration



**THE Vale of Glamorgan Council recently hosted a celebration evening for local youngsters who had gained their gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award.**

Hannah Lee and Hana Fletcher Peters, students at Cowbridge Comprehensive School, along with James Senior, Jessica Duggan and Thomas Mullett, who attend Stanwell Comprehensive School, all completed the course run by the council's youth and adult community learning service.

The group undertook a shared activity in a residential setting, participate in sport, learn or develop a new skill, volunteer and take part in a four-day expedition.

They were congratulated by National Development Officer for Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Wales, Grant Poiner, and received awards from Coun Lis Burnett, deputy leader and cabinet member for regeneration and education, prior to the royal presentation later this year at St James's Palace.

**PICTURED (left to right): Tina Simmons, Senior Youth Service Manager; Hana Fletcher-Peters, Cowbridge Comprehensive School; Hannah Lee, Cowbridge Comprehensive School; Grant Poiner, National Development Officer, Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Wales; James Senior, Stanwell Comprehensive School; Coun Lis Burnett, deputy leader and cabinet member for regeneration and education; Thomas Mullett, Stanwell Comprehensive School; Jessica Duggan, Stanwell Comprehensive School; Andy Borsden, Lead Officer, Youth and Community Learning; Pat Stephenson, D of E Administrator and Hannah Morgan, Operations Officer, D of E Wales.**

## The Prince's Countryside Fund gives £600k boost to the rural communities

**THE Prince's Countryside Fund, the charity which aims to improve the prospects of family farm businesses and the quality of rural life across the UK, has announced a grant funding pot of more than £600,000 to support rural initiatives.**

Rural enterprise projects across Wales that range from enhancing community services, providing training opportunities for young and unemployed people and projects that focus on developing stronger, more sustainable farm businesses can apply for a grant of up to £50,000.

Across Wales, nearly £500,000 has been donated over the last six years to projects offering bilingual financial advice and mental health support, rural skills traineeships and other rural

projects such as helping to fund village shops.

Submissions opened on Monday, September 19 and close on Thursday, October 13.

Applicants can visit [www.princescountrysidefund/grantprogramme](http://www.princescountrysidefund/grantprogramme) to check their eligibility and find out how to apply.

Perhaps reflecting the growing need in rural communities, the fund released its greatest number of grants to date earlier this year with 21 projects funded. Since being founded by HRH The Prince of Wales in 2010, the fund has distributed more than £7 million to 182 projects across the UK, helping more than 200,000 people.

Clare Crookenden, grants manager for The Prince's Countryside Fund, said: "Since 2010 our grant programme has provided a vital boost to people and grassroot organisations who

are working hard to protect and enhance the countryside. We've been able to support innovative and diverse projects, ranging from inspiring young people to develop their skills and pursue a rural career to strengthening rural businesses who have been hit hard in recent years.

"Our grant programme has been made available to help improve the lives of people living and working in the countryside. Community shops, libraries and pubs and the people who support them add vibrancy and strength to rural communities and we are committed to help.

"Action is needed to give rural communities the chance to provide the vital services that they rely on and to ensure all of us benefit from retaining a vibrant countryside."



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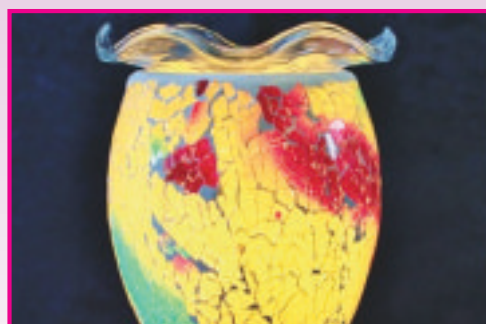
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- Health lottery
- Bedding plants and bulbs
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- No charge for cash withdrawals.

**Come along to our friendly store. Peter Stewart, the owner, named the shop Pipelle after Pippi and Elie, his daughters.**

The shop has now been open for 6 weeks following a major refurbishment to introduce new lines such as fresh fruit and vegetables and a comprehensive sweet shop providing customers with more than just a post office.

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# Former soldier issues a plea for an Armed Forces drop-in centre at Barry

**A former soldier has called for a 'drop-in centre' to be opened in Barry for Vale Armed Forces' veterans.**

Robert Adams (54), who was in the Royal Engineers and served in the UK, Germany and Northern Ireland, said he had been angry to see the Vale Council recently publicising an Armed Services Covenant meeting.

"I think it is hypocrisy that the council signs up to the Covenant and we haven't even got a drop-in centre for local veterans.

"All we would need would be a couple of rooms – somewhere we could meet up one day a week, make tea or coffee, and have a speaker along to talk about a relevant issue like housing.

"In England, there are local authorities that have signed the Covenant and they

provide mini-buses, day trips and priority housing – you don't see that in the Vale."

*The Armed Forces Covenant is a promise from the nation that those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces, and their families, are treated fairly.*

Mr Adams estimates there could be around 1,300 to 1,500 former services personnel in the Vale – a fertile recruiting ground over the decades – and he thinks veterans should have a regular point of contact where they can discuss their experiences and find out what help is available.

Mr Adams suffers from post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), a neck injury, spinal problems, loss of hearing, and he suffered a bullet wound in Northern Ireland.

When he wanted to return home to the Vale from the West Midlands four years ago, he says he

by GEM REPORTER



Robert Adams with best friend Mazey.

was told by housing officials that he had little chance of getting a property.

"Although I was originally from the Vale and had letters from the housing officer, a psychiatrist and a GP in Kidderminster, I was considered a low priority

and given bronze status.

"I moved in to private rented accommodation in Barry, thanks to a family friend. The council will find properties and provide support for refugees you can guarantee that.

"The Vale Council should have staff who are pro-active and employed as outreach workers to make contact with veterans before they have breakdowns.

"Many veterans are returning from Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria with PTSD."

## GENERATIONS

Mr Adams said he was speaking up, not just for the present generation of soldiers, but future ones – because he thinks that with the spread of ISIS our Armed Forces are likely to be involved in military conflicts again in the future.

In 2012, a Healthcare Inspectorate Wales report looked into the health care received by veterans in Wales, and among the contributors was a Vale veteran who said he

would like to see a drop-in centre opened locally.

The Vale Council has said it supports the 'Count Them In' campaign, which calls on the UK Government to include specific questions relating to military personnel in the next UK Census.

The charity Change Step, which offers 'veteran-to-veteran' support over issues such as housing and mental health, has lobbied Parliament to help track down servicemen and women who may need help, but are falling through the net.

David Ireland of Change Step told The GEM he had recently been to Westminster to appeal to MPs for information to be sent out to the general population asking whether they had ever been a member of the Armed Forces and what sort of help might they need.

He said that since 2015, he had five referrals of people who needed help in the Barry area, but that there may be others.

*A Vale Council spokesman said: "In 2011, the council launched the first Armed Forces Covenant in Wales. In doing so, we committed ourselves to ensuring that those who serve, or have served, in the Armed Forces are in no way disadvantaged when accessing council services."*

*"Further to this we work to enable not just serving and former members of the Armed Forces, but also their families, to easily access the help and support they are entitled to."*

## Local funding for students

**COWBRIDGE students who have left school and are continuing their education, can apply for a grant from one of three local charities for each year of their studies.**

The Cowbridge Institute Educational Trust and the Evan Jenkins Charity support applicants who are under 25 years of age; while Cowbridge with Llanblethian United Charities may support those over 25.

Applicants must live within the qualifying area agreed with the Charity Commission. For Cowbridge Institute Educational Trust and Cowbridge with Llanblethian United Charities, this is the Town Council area of Cowbridge with

Llanblethian.

The Evan Jenkins Charity covers the old parishes of Llanblethian and Ystradowen, which include the villages of Trerhyngyll and Aberthyn.

*Application forms, which are straightforward and not subject to any means testing, are common for all three charities. They can be obtained by request on email, cowbridgeiet@gmail.com or as a hard copy from outside 27 St John's Close, Cowbridge, CF71 7HN.*

*The next round of meetings for these charities is not until October/November. Applicants will not be contacted until after their requests have been considered at these meetings.*

# FROM URUGUAY TO THE VALE... Isaac finally retires – at the age of 80!

**AN award-winning architect, responsible for many well-known buildings in the area, is retiring from his Cowbridge High Street practice after nearly 30 years.**

Isaac Benjuya, a familiar and friendly face around the town, was responsible for designing many buildings and residential dwellings throughout south Wales.

His work included the Newport Police HQ, St Mary's Church in Chepstow and more locally, the Filco extension in Llantwit Major.

Mr Benjuya, who will be 80 this year, won the Gold Medal award for Industrial Architecture for his work on Cardiff's Radiochemical Centre.

He came to Wales in 1973 from Uruguay, fleeing the Tupamaros, a left-wing guerrilla group, and now lives in the Vale.

Mr Benjuya told The GEM that despite his retirement from his practice in Cowbridge, he is "only hanging up one boot" and will continue to work on some projects from his home in Dinas Powys.

Vale MP Alun Cairns praised the architect's tenure in the town,



Vale MP Alun Cairns wishes Isaac Benjuya well on his retirement from his Cowbridge office.

describing him as a big personality and a "local institution".

He said: "Isaac is one of the friendliest and most interesting people I have met. In Cowbridge his door was always open and he could often be found chatting with residents on the High Street."

"He is a real local institution, part of the framework of Cowbridge, and his departure is truly the end of an era."

"I wish him all the best for the future and hope he manages to enjoy some well-deserved rest."

Mr Benjuya said: "I always enjoyed the easy way people came into the office, either to order some new project, or to enquire on the progress of a project, or simply for a chat or a cup of coffee."

"Now that I am almost 80 years old, I feel it is time to take a step back from the daily half-hour trip to Cowbridge, each way, often arriving at 7am to secure my parking space!"

"I am grateful for all the happy memories of my time in Cowbridge and would like to thank all of my good friends and clients."

## Inspiring portraits go on view

**AN exhibition of inspiring Welsh and British people such as Dr Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury and former First Minister Rhodri Morgan, with many other figures from the Vale, is to go on show at the Senedd from September 22 to October 20.**

The Between the Lines exhibition, which is being sponsored by Jane Hutt AM, is a unique record of community life in Wales and UK that now comprises more than 65 people. Each person featured in the exhibition has been nominated by one of the other subjects.

The project was conceived by Barry artist Glyn Pooley.

*Between the Lines will be on show at the Senedd, Friday, September 23 – Thursday, October 2.*

## 'Hinkley Point nuclear power station will benefit Wales'

**SAYS WELSH TORY LEADER**

**WELSH Conservative leader Andrew R T Davies has welcomed the news that the UK Government will be pressing ahead with the development of Hinkley Point C.**

"We welcome news that the construction of the first nuclear power station in a generation has been given the green light. This is a huge plus for the UK and for Wales," he said.

"Britain needs to upgrade its supplies of energy, and Conservatives have always been clear that nuclear is an important part of ensuring our future low-carbon energy security."

"The agreement will not only strengthen bilateral relations between the UK and France, but will also confer some potentially big benefits on the Welsh economy," Mr Davies claimed.

"Given the proximity of the Somerset site to Wales, there are clear opportunities here for employment and businesses, with up to 26,000 jobs and apprenticeships being created."

"We're already aware of big orders for steel emanating from this project, and we are hopeful that Hinkley will play its part in turbocharging Wales' steel economy."

"Now is the time for our highly-skilled workforce to seize on the opportunity to be part of one of the biggest construction projects in 70 years," he enthused.

## 'THRIVING WELSH BUSINESS HUB' IS PRAISED AT AWARDS EVENING



Alun Cairns MP, Nicki Piper MBE and Sara Edwards.

**COWBRIDGE'S Bear Hotel has again played host to the South Wales Business Awards, hosted by TV and radio presenter, Sara Edwards.**

Among local winners were Forces Fitness, who won the Retail Business of the Year Award. Cowbridge is home turf for this small enterprise, whose instructors and participants can regularly be seen meeting at Borough Close outside Y Bont Faen primary school in the town ahead of rigorous fitness exercises.

Founder of the awards, Wesely Skene said, "Since 2008 the awards have been celebrating excellence in the Welsh business community; 2016 has once again shown that south Wales is the hub of a thriving and successful business community, with many businesses achieving some truly outstanding things."

Vale MP and Welsh Secretary of State, Alun Cairns, presented the award for contribution to Welsh Business and Society to champion boxer turned charity organiser Nicky Piper, who

raises funds for George Thomas Hospice care; and was aided by other guests, who generously donated £450 to the charity.

Mr Cairns said: "It was a pleasure celebrate the entrepreneurial talent we have in this part of the country. It is the risk takers with ambition who will help to build and expand the modern Welsh economy. I enjoyed seeing so many of them recognised for their efforts in Cowbridge."

"It was a fantastic evening and I would like to thank Wesely Skene and Cardiff Now for putting it together. It is right that we celebrate the skill and personal bravery that building businesses and creating jobs demands."

He added: "I was particularly privileged to present former boxer Nicky Piper with his award for Contribution to Welsh Business and Society."

"Nicky has done a huge amount to raise money for George Thomas Hospice Care as an events manager and it was fitting that guests at the awards donated money to the charity."



# FAMILY PETS ON SHOW TO RAISE FUNDS FOR PETERSTON'S NEW CHURCH ROOF

Photographs by IAN DIXON

LADIES from St Peter's Church, Peterston-super-Ely, recently organised a novelty dog and pet show on the village community field.

Proceeds from the day were donated to the church roof repair fund.

Cowbridge TV personality Claire Summers, and local vet Jo Everitt took on the difficult task of awarding the rosettes with great skill.

The afternoon was very successful, with the animals behaving impeccably, and the large number of villagers thoroughly enjoying themselves.





# CARDIFF AIRPORT REPORTS SUCCESSFUL YEAR AS... Questions raised over £1m 'air-link' subsidy

**C A R D I F F  
AIRPORT** has  
enjoyed a success-  
ful year.

According to a report from the airport in June, passenger numbers are up 26 per cent for the rolling year to just over 1.27 million, the largest increase since 2009-2010.

This was helped by Flybe increasing its route network from four to 16 destinations and added special 'football flights' to Bordeaux, Toulouse and Paris for key Euro 2016 matches.

According to the airport, the 26 per cent increase in passenger numbers for the rolling year brings passenger numbers to just over 1.27 million, the largest increase since 2009-2010.

However, while the airport is a success, a Freedom of Information (FoI) request by Welsh

by GEM Reporter

Conservatives revealed the growing cost of the 'north-south air link' between Cardiff and Anglesey.

The route, subsidised by the Welsh Government, is a legacy of the Labour-Plaid coalition during the third assembly, when it was set up by former Deputy First Minister Ieuan Wyn Jones.

The Conservatives' FoI request revealed that the route has absorbed millions of pounds since it was established – despite being used by fewer than 10,000 passengers a year.

It had also revealed that in 2015-16, the subsidy rose to £109.53 per passenger from £86.07 (an increase of 27 per cent) with passenger numbers rising by 2.6 per cent over the same period.

The total subsidy given in 2014-15 was £838,040.31, and the amount paid totalled £1,094,216.39. There was a rise in passenger numbers of 253 to 9,990.

Shadow cabinet secretary for economy and transport, Russell George, said: "The amount of money being thrown at this service is starting to raise serious questions, not least because passenger growth is being steadily outstripped by the rising cost of the subsidy."

"Last year the Welsh Government's contribution to the air link's running costs was £110 per person, which is more than the cost of a return ticket."

(The GEM checked on next-day flights and found the cheapest return flight to be £126.)

Mr George said that

the Welsh Government must undertake an urgent review of the service, including its cost and the route itself, to determine ways to make the service more cost-effective and viable in the long term.

Countering these claims, a Welsh Government spokesperson said: "We experienced an increase in cost for the 'intra-Wales air service' as a result of the previous operator withdrawing from the route, with no notice, at the beginning of this year."

"An interim contract was competitively procured to ensure value for money was achieved and service continuity remained in place for passengers."

The GEM also approached Cardiff Airport for comment, but none was received before the newspaper went to press.

# Warning that bovine TB 'failure' will 'cost trade deals with Europe'

by GEM REPORTER

**WELSH Labour has been taken to task by the Tories over a failure to tackle bovine TB (bTB).**

The Conservatives quoted figures released by the Welsh Government that showed 9,476 cattle were slaughtered in Wales in the 12 months to June 2016 compared to 6,647 for the same period to June 2015.

Paul Davies, Shadow Rural Affairs Secretary, said: "Welsh Labour's vaccination programme has failed, with the number of cattle slaughtered in Wales up by 43 per cent in the 12 months up to June."

"These figures highlight Labour's spectacular failure to tackle bTB, and demonstrate the huge impact that this disease is having on rural communities and Welsh farming."

He said that his party had long called for a "comprehensive scientifically-led programme" of bTB eradication to tackle the disease because, he said: "It remains all too clear that vaccination alone will not work."

He called for action from the Welsh Government, saying that stringent cattle controls and additional biosecurity will not "cut the mustard on their own."

Just last week, the Farmers Union of Wales (FUW) told AMs that bTB will "cost (Wales) trade deals with Europe" and gave its weight to a call for a debate at the National Assembly on the eradication of bTB in cattle and wildlife.

The motion was put forward by Plaid Cymru AM Simon Thomas, whose shadow brief includes energy, climate change and rural affairs, and was supported by AMs from other parties, including Mr Davies.

FUW president Glyn Roberts urged all other AMs to "throw their support" behind the debate, and said that each AM must recognise the "catastrophic consequences" for future trade negotiations if the disease status in Welsh wildlife is not urgently addressed.

He added: "This debate is an opportunity for cross-party co-operation on an issue which has significant emotional and financial implications for many farmers in Wales and we need the support of the whole Assembly to achieve a change in policy."

The FUW warned that current levels of bTB in Wales exceed what will be acceptable to other EU countries when the UK is outside the single market.

It further cautioned that the current disease status has the potential to be a challenging negotiation tool, especially given the vacuum created by post vaccination failure.

The GEM put Mr Davies' comments to the FUW.

Its spokeswoman, Anne Birkett, reported that a 2012 report by the Bovine Tuberculosis Subgroup of the EU Task Force for 'Monitoring Animal Disease Eradication' details that the European Commission recognised the link between badgers and bTB transmission to cattle.

She said: "In 2012, plans to cull badgers in the north Pembrokeshire 'Intensive Action Area' (IAA) were scrapped in favour of a five-year badger vaccination pilot programme."

"Since May 2010, cattle farmers within the IAA have endured additional, costly, cattle control measures which are over and above those implemented in the rest of Wales. These continued after the plan to cull badgers was abandoned."

Ms Birkett said that in December last year, the then-Deputy Minister announced that the fifth year of the badger vaccination trial could not be completed due to a global shortage of vaccine.

This, she said, coupled with a move from a cull of badgers to the vaccination programme meant that the eradication programme in Wales had lost momentum.

"With this in mind," said Ms Birkett, "and because of the failure to complete the IAA vaccination programme, the Welsh Government implements a badger culling policy at the earliest opportunity."

"This is in line with official ministerial advice previously received by Welsh Government, and recognises that controlling the disease in both cattle and badger populations remains imperative to achieving bovine TB eradication in Wales."

The debate takes place on Wednesday, 28 September.

The GEM approached Lesley Griffiths, Minister for Agriculture, and Rural Affairs, but received no comment by the time the paper went to press.



Bovine TB is having a huge impact on rural communities.

# Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness for the Ramblers

**FOR the eight walkers who joined Clive from Penarth and District Ramblers on the journey up to the Augustinian Llanthony Priory in the rugged, peaceful Vale of Ewyas where the landscape was blotted out by low mist and rain, there was a glimmer of hope that as per the weather forecast things would improve by lunch time, but it simply didn't happen!**

Togged up against the weather, they set off through lush green meadows behind the extensive ruined priory and uphill into woodland on the Beacons Way for the gradual, but long climb, along a muddy fern-lined path to join Offa's Dyke Path, which runs the entire length of Hatterall Hill and marks the boundary between Wales and England.

Crossing to the northeast side of the ridge where views normally stretch out over the fields of Herefordshire towards the delightful Golden Valley, the mist was just as bad on the English side of the hill as the Welsh.

Following Offa's Dyke Path southwards through the gloom and after meeting a group of ramblers from the Kent area on their way to Hay Bluff, an undefined pathway through thick heather led on past a stone gorse butt used on the Glorious Twelfth (of August) through to December as cover for shooting red grouse.

Heading on through the cross dyke and beginning their descent of the southern spur of the hill, the cloud lifted slightly revealing sheep and low roadside

meadows in the Honddu Valley below them.

Steep slippery paths led them down to a hill overlooking Cwmyoy, torn in two from an ancient landslide where a stop was made for lunch in the shelter of a lovely old drystone wall as rain fell.

Then entering fields a bridleway led them downhill beneath the steep sided Darren through the farms of Daren isaf and Daren ganol before a bridge over the pretty River Honddu led to some road walking.

Re-entering fields past two friendly horses and crossing another footbridge over the Honddu, a series of huge meadows populated only with grazing sheep and red berries and acorns adorning the hawthorn and oak trees, led them back towards their start as the mist finally lifted enough to allow some views northwards through the beautiful Vale of Ewyas.

On September 24, meet at 9am at the Barry Waterfront for a 10-mile moderate walk taking in Castle-upon-Alun, St Brides Major and the Heritage Coast; contact Geraint on 029 2051 5278.

On September 25, meet at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for (depending on the weather) a 10 to 12-mile hard walk taking in Blaen y Glyn waterfalls and Talybont; contact Joy on 01446 737131.

To follow the group please log onto [www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com](http://www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com) or Facebook. Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

JOY STRANGWARD

# A visit to Chained Library and ancient 'Mappa Mundi'

**SULLY U3A has recently formed a hand-bell group, using the hand-bells belonging to St John Baptist Church, Sully.**

Despite being so newly formed, the ladies gave two performances when the church was open as part of Cadw Open Doors.

These were enjoyed by people taking the opportunity to look around the church.

Also members of the



Sully U3A hand-bell group.

local history group visited Hereford Cathedral for a guided tour followed by a visit to the famous Chained Library and the Mappa Mundi exhibition, the Mappa Mundi being one of the earliest known maps of the world dating from around 1300.

The existing cathedral is the third one on the site and was started in 1079, after the existing Saxon cathedral was considered to be in too ruinous a state.

The Norman or Romanesque architecture in the nave and south transept was very impressive.

During the visit, they were shown the 14th century shrine dedicated to St Thomas de Cantilupe, who died in 1282 when he visited the Pope in Italy to appeal against his excommunication by John Peckham, Archbishop of Canterbury.

The next monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, October 13 at 2pm in The Old School, Sully.

The speaker will be Gareth Kiddie talking on the restoration of the Galilee Chapel in Llantwit Major.

SC

# Latest draft development plan issued

**THE Vale Council has begun consultation on the latest changes to its draft Local Development Plan, made following the recent public examination of the previous draft.**

The council is required to produce a Local Development Plan which sets out the local authority's vision, objectives, strategy and policies for managing development in the Vale of Glamorgan. The plan covers the years 2011 to 2026.

At the 'Examination in Public' undertaken earlier this year, an independent planning inspector, appointed by the Welsh Government, reviewed the council's plan to ensure it was sound and met with the requirements of relevant legislation.

As a result of this examination and the

questions raised by the inspector, a number of changes have been made. These are known as 'Matters Arising Changes' and range from factual updates, to changes to wording, and new allocations for development.

The council will be formally consulting on the changes until October 28 and would welcome comments from interested parties.

The Matters Arising Changes Schedule, along with further information about this and the next stages of the LDP, can be viewed at the council's main offices, at all libraries in the Vale, and online at [www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/ldp](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/ldp).

# Who was Boudicca?

**WIFE. Mother. Queen. Guardian of her people – or a crazy warmongering woman with a taste for Roman blood. Who was the real Boudicca?**

Find out in a fun, family-friendly show at Bryn Eryr Iron Age farmstead, St Fagans' newest, oldest building this weekend September 24 – 25, 12pm (Welsh language), 1.30pm and 3pm (English language).

The production is produced by 'In Character' as part of the Children's Festival of Welsh History. Written by Manon Steffan Ros, the show will be performed in St Fagan's Museum's Iron Age roundhouse.

It is aimed at families with children aged 6-11 (all children must be with an adult).

Bookings via [www.ticketlineuk.com](http://www.ticketlineuk.com) or phone 029 2023 0130.



# PENARTH HOCKEY CLUB NEWS ROUND-UP

**PENARTH Hockey Club's second XI suffered a setback in their pursuit of further silverware in 2016-17, as a disappointing performance led to an early exit from the season's cup competition in Swansea, but there was a notable landmark for the resurgent club as it fielded four senior sides for the first time in more than 20 years.**

## PENARTH 'A' - WELSH CHALLENGE CUP (QUALIFYING ROUND)

After losing in the final of the Challenge Cup last season, Penarth's second XI were looking to go one step further this season, but first needed to overcome the now-familiar start-of-season hurdle posed by the multi-team qualifying competition in Swansea.

The Vale side opened up against Cardiff & Met in their first game but, in an end-to-end encounter, it was Cardiff who struck first, capitalising on a breakaway to find a free man in the 'D'.

Penarth fought back to level before the interval, with increasing pressure eventually allowing Dave Kidby to apply the finishing touch to a nice passing move, but the Bears were to be guilty of missing further good chances and, as the game continued to feature goalmouth action at both ends, were made to pay when Cardiff & Met grabbed two second half goals to run out 3-1 winners.

Although the late withdrawal of second scheduled opponent Abergavenny gave the disappointed Penarth players a lengthy break between games, it also removed an opportunity to put some points on the board and the Vale side eventually faced a strong Bridgend side knowing that they needed to win by two clear goals if they were to qualify for the cross-group play-off games that would determine who progressed to the semi-finals at the Welsh Institute of Sport later in the season.

Unfortunately for the Bears, it was Bridgend who came out of the blocks the quicker and, having pressed Penarth hard enough to box them into their own half, the pressure eventually told as three quick-fire goals threatened to put the tie beyond doubt.

It could have been 4-0 before the interval but for a magnificent 'save' by Mark Harris that denied Bridgend from the penalty spot, and the moment

seemed to inspire the Vale side as they fought back in the second half.

Goals from Phil Lane, with a beautiful reverse stick flick into the top corner, and Andrew Hornby, from the penalty spot after another of Lane's efforts was illegally blocked on the line, appeared to give Penarth hope of at least a positive result, but the fightback fell short as Bridgend added a soft fourth goal with Penarth down to 10 men late in the game.

The Bears will now need to show some 'bouncebackability' to recover from these disappointing defeats before the league season begins if they are to mount a bid for back-to-back divisional titles and accompanying promotion.

## PENARTH 2, WHITCHURCH 2

With the Welsh Trophy qualifiers and new league season just around the corner, Penarth's senior side faced the toughest game of their pre-season as they welcomed a full-strength Whitchurch first XI squad to the 'Bears Den' at Stanwell School.

However, with the second team taking a squad to their cup qualifier, the firsts had to rely on a bare XI to battle both their opponents and the sweltering weather conditions.

Whitchurch made the better start, enjoying the lion's share of possession in the opening exchanges, setting a high tempo while Penarth looked to conserve their energy stores for later in the game.

Despite their better start, however, Whitchurch struggled to break down a resilient Penarth side showing plenty of discipline to keep their shape and structure.

The visitors did go close to breaking the deadlock but, while the deft touch from the forward managed to lob the ball over Adam Putt, it found the crossbar and could be cleared to safety.

The near-miss would spark a response from Penarth, and the half continued in an open manner, with both teams looking for the breakthrough - which eventually went to Whitchurch with the half-time whistle approaching, as former Penarth player Robert Williams converted a powerful drag flick that left Putt frustrated.

Penarth did not take long to strike back after the interval, with David Joyce striking a penalty corner from the top of the 'D' that took a nasty bobble in front of the hapless goalkeeper, and, despite Whitchurch's numerical advantage, it was the bare 11 of Penarth that dominated the second half.

It was ironic then that Williams was to get the next goal, firing low to Putt's right, but Penarth soon wised up to his tactic and, at the next opportunity, charged his effort down to spring a lightning counter-attack that found new recruit Andrew Willemite at the back post to score his first goal for the club and level the scores at 2-2.

Although both teams had chances to win the game, a draw was a fair result for a high quality encounter, but Penarth left as the happier team, having faced down a Whitchurch side playing two divisions higher in the league pyramid.

## PENARTH B 3, CARDIFF MEDICS A 4

Having played as part of a combined development team the week before, Penarth's third XI began their pre-season preparations with a fixture against a Cardiff Medics team set to compete two divisions higher in the GoCrea8 league structure, but proved worthy opponents for the students.

The opening 20 minutes remained goalless, but Penarth enjoyed equal amounts of possession, if not territory. The Vale side were solid at back with the quartet of Simon Wilkinson, Matt Birch, Paul Thomas and Rob Harrison holding firm, and it was only the first real misplaced pass of the game that allowed the Medics to break the deadlock.

Unfortunately for Penarth, that strike was followed by another just a few minutes later as the Medics broke away following a dreadful Penarth penalty corner, but the home side were able to reduce the deficit before the interval as James Kidby converted following an excellent passing move at the end of the half.

Penarth started the second half as the better team and, within five minutes, were on level terms as Dave Watkins capitalised on an interception.

However, a mistake at the other end swiftly handed the Medics a chance to go back in front capitalising, leaving the home side to fightback all over again.

To their credit, Penarth stuck to their task and eventually pulled the scores level at 3-3 following another good attacking move, with Kidby calmly getting his second goal of the game after a clinical through ball from Adam Morse.

Sadly for the Bears, the last 15 minutes belonged mainly to the Medics as their youth superior fitness began to tell, but the Penarth defence held out into the dying moments, with goalkeeper Jason Harris making a couple of notable saves before a penalty corner right on the final whistle provided a final opportunity for the students to snatch victory.

Despite the defeat, it was an excellent all-round performance from the Penarth side, with special mention going to Nathan Townsend, whose tireless effort in midfield stopped many Medics attacks before they could develop into anything dangerous.

## GWENT C 3, PENARTH C 1

Saturday saw the next step on Penarth Hockey Club's development towards its '2020 Vision and

**Goals' when, for the first time in over 20 years, a true senior fourth XI took to the field in addition to three other sides.**

Faced by a more experienced Gwent team, the 'C-siders' gave an excellent account of themselves on a Rougemont pitch reminiscent of the one at Penarth's former home at Colcot.

On the heavily-sanded and very uneven surface, the visitors were unlucky to lose 3-1 in a game they could, and should, have at least drawn.

Hampered by the late withdrawal of their goalkeeper, Penarth were grateful to their hosts for lending them a replacement, but the youngster could do little when, from the breakdown of a dubious penalty corner, the men of Gwent took an early lead.

To their credit, the young Penarth side fought back strongly and, following good work by Jack Ritchie, veteran Derek Wooding brought the scores level.

Parity was short-lived, however, as shortly before the half-time break, Gwent managed to force the ball home from short range to take a 2-1 lead into the interval.

The second half began much as the first had ended and, with the Penarth youngsters tiring quickly, the Gwent side took advantage to extend their lead.

A tactical switch by the Penarth skipper, pushing additional players into the contested midfield saw the 'C-siders' take control of the latter stages but, despite a succession of penalty corners resulting from the increased Penarth pressure, a series of saves and goal-line clearances meant the Vale side were unable to claw back the deficit and Gwent ran out 3-1 winners.

It was an extremely close call for man-of-the-match returning veteran Ian Brookfield and newcomer Iwan Meddins, but the general consensus was that the youngster richly deserved the award for a highly promising senior debut.

Three of the four Penarth Hockey Club sides are in action this weekend, with the first XI taking their turn in cup qualifying action as they take the first step towards defending the Welsh Trophy they won last season.

The seconds travel to face off against Cardiff Medics, while the fourths entertain Llanishen & Caerphilly 'B' at Stanwell. All three sides will play in the memory of club stalwart Brian Lowe, who sadly passed away at the start of the week.

Penarth Hockey Club always welcomes new, old and returning players, umpires, supporters, friends and helpers regardless of age and ability. Training takes place on Wednesdays at Stanwell School, with the juniors on the pitch between 6.15pm and 7.15pm and the seniors between 7pm and 8.15pm.

Anyone interested in joining the club at senior or youth level can contact club secretary Dave Stevens (d\_stevens81@hotmail.co.uk) for further information.

CL

## Beavers compete at gala



### BARRY BEAVERS Disabled Swimming Club recently competed at a swimming gala in Ebbw Vale.

The team were: Sarah Davies, Louis Davies, Jack Kemp, Faye Sage, Andrew Sage, Mark Eveleigh, Kyle Salik, Philip Daley, Nicholas Cushen, F.Jones, J.Finch, C.Savory, T.Savory, James Mothersole, Keira Richards, and Adam Sergeant.

They were supported by: Pat Finch (coach), Chris E, Angela, Catherine Jones, Linda Savory, Tom Burly (squash) and Josh Davies (squash), along with all the parents, relatives and members who came to support the team.

They came second overall in points and will find out where they stand in the League Swim at the next gala in the Rhondda.

NICHOLAS CUSHEN

Go to our dedicated sports page for the latest stories and breaking news... @sport\_gem

## Local tennis club look ahead to historic fixture



### RECENTLY re-established tennis club, Llantwit Major TC, will be hosting its first league team tennis match in over 10 years.

The match will take place on the courts next to Llatonian Hall at 10am on Sunday, September 25. The club is looking for as much support as possible to cheer on the team and witness the historic occasion.

LMTC was reformed in July of this year thanks to the efforts of a group of volunteers, Llantwit Major Town Council and local coaching provider Vale Tennis Academy.

The club decided to enter Tennis Wales' Mixed Doubles Winter League to put the club

back on the tennis map competing against teams from all over south Wales.

The winter league season will run up until March 2017 and details of all the club's fixtures can be found on its website, www.llantwitennnis.co.uk

The fixture on Sunday is billed to be the start of a great friendly rivalry against Barry Community Tennis Club, another local club that was set-up as part of Vale Tennis Academy's Park Tennis Programme. After the match both teams and spectators have been invited to celebrate at the rugby club next door.

Over the last couple of months LMTC's membership base has steadily grown but to achieve its aim of replacing the current court

surface, will require more members to sign up.

The club meet up every Friday evening and Saturday afternoon from 2pm for social tennis and there is coaching for children every Saturday morning.

Joining Llantwit Major TC allows you free access to the courts, attend weekly social sessions for free, discounted rates on coaching and you will be able to go into our Wimbledon ticket ballot!

If you are interested in joining, please visit our website, www.llantwitennnis.co.uk, or email info@llantwitennnis.co.uk - you can also find Llantwit Major Tennis Club on Facebook and Twitter.

RC



# Defeat to end season for Romilly

**BARRY Romilly Bowls Club visited Ferndale last Saturday for their last game of the season which was a re-arranged fixture.**

Both sides were unable to win the league but Ferndale were in second place just ahead of Romilly in third place. With Caerphilly already champions, Romilly, as last year's champions, were eager to finish in second position but had to beat Ferndale by at least 13-1 but, at Ferndale, winning was going to be extremely difficult.

Ferndale fielded their strongest team of their season while Romilly were five regular first team players missing through holidays.

Fortunately Romilly were able to call on players who were

regulars in the club's A team who have gained promotion for the second year in succession.

The A team players, namely Denis Mottram, Tony Jones and Brian Cheal, acquitted themselves well in a Romilly team who fought right to the end, losing out by just one shot, 79-80.

With three rinks losing it was Jeff Wright's rink, playing brilliantly, winning by 27 shots, 35-8, gaining two points for Romilly to Ferndale's 12.

Another excellent season for the Romilly Club with the first side finishing third in the first division and the club's A team achieving promotion from Division 4 to Division 5 after winning Division 5 the previous year.

**FP**

# Dinas Wolves' six of the best

**YOUNG Dinas Wolves could have had this game against IMFC Blues buried in the opening 10 minutes but a failure to convert proved costly.**

Bayley Harewood, playing in such a rich vein of form at present, opened the scoring after Kyle Booker had set Rian Thomas free and he squared it across the goal.

The pace of the Dinas forwards kept IMFC back. The home missed a number of chances again and IMFC capitalised, drawing level.

As the half wore on the game was a very even contest as both keepers were tested. Jacob Moss donned the gloves for Dinas and was in fine form.

With less than three minutes on the watch in the second half IMFC had taken the lead with a great low strike into the corner, as they looked to carry on from where they had finished the first half.

This just fired the home side up and from then on in they threw bodies forward in search of goals.

The introduction of a nearly-fit again Callum Hewitson had the

desired affect as he bagged himself a hat-trick in the next 15 minutes, showing why his regarded so highly within the team.

Not to be outdone Harewood bagged another two and left the field to a round of applause from his teammates.

Harrison Kelly and Conor O'Brien looked for the simple ball to keep the Dinas team ticking over with some crisp passes. Rian Thomas ran himself into the ground for the team, tracking back until his tank was empty.

This wasn't a day for pretty football from the home team, it was about putting the ball in areas that Dinas could work with.

Joe Doughty, Zac Fifield, Jacob Perria and Kyle Booker kept feeding the front three time and time again.

Jake Lewis, Jake Frost, Tylor Williams, Robson Malam and Kian Quest then stood strong to give the home side a good platform to play off.

Man of the match for Dinas was Jacob Moss, playing in goals and proving a great stand-in replacement. The final score was 6-2.

**LS**

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Go to the **The GEM** for the latest stories and breaking news... [www.barry-today.co.uk/www.cowbridge-today.co.uk/www.llantwit-major-today.co.uk/www.bridgend-today.co.uk/www.porthcawl-today.co.uk](http://www.barry-today.co.uk/www.cowbridge-today.co.uk/www.llantwit-major-today.co.uk/www.bridgend-today.co.uk/www.porthcawl-today.co.uk)

**HYSBYSIAD CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG**  
**GORCHYMYN CAU FFORDD DROS DRO, ADUAN 16A DEDDF RHEOLEIDDIO TRAFFIG FYRDD 1984**  
**HANNER MARATHON CAERDYDD - PENARTH**  
**DYDD SUL 2 HYDREF 2016**

**RHODDIR HYSBYSIAD DRWY HYN** fod Cyngor Bro Morgannwg wedi gwneud y gorchymyn canlynol dan Adran 16A Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Fyrrdd 1984:-

**DRWY HYN** yn ystod oriau penodol o'r dydd ac ar y dyddiad a nodir yng nghlofn 1 yr Atodlen caiff y strydoedd neu'r rhannau o'r strydoedd a nodir yng nghlofn 2 yr Atodlen honno eu defnyddio i gynnal digwyddiad perthnasol fel y disgrifir yn Adran 16(A) (1) Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Fyrrdd 1984, mae'r Cyngor yn unol â'r pwerau a ddylfennir iddo dan Adran 16A Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Fyrrdd 1984 yn **GORCHYMYN AC YN CYFEIRIO** er mwyn hwylysu'r gwaith o gynnal y digwyddiad, galluogi aelodau'r cyhoedd i wylïo'r digwyddiad hwnnw ac i leihau ar unrhyw effaith ar draffig a achosir gan y digwyddiad, cydymffurfiaeth â'r rheoliad canlynol:


**CYFYNGIR**, ac eithrio i'r hyn y darperir ar ei gyfer yn y gorchymyn, y defnydd o'r strydoedd neu'r rhannau o'r strydoedd a nodir i'r holl draffig cerbydau, gan gynnwys beiciau pedal, **ac eithrio i Gerbydau'r Gwasanaethau Brys**, rhwng yr oriau a nodir yng nghlofn 3 o'r atodlen a nodir. Y gosb am dorri'r rheoliad yw dirwy hyd at £1000.00.

Colofn 1	Colofn 2	Colofn 3
Dydd Sul 2 Hydref 2016	<b>1/ A4055 - Cogan Spur</b> (ar gau yn y ddau gyfeiriad) o'r gyffordd ag A4160 Heol Penarth tua'r gogledd-ddwyrain i ffin y sir. <b>2/ A4160 - Windsor Road (Cogan Hill)</b> ar gau tua'r de-ddwyrain o'r gyffordd ag A4055 Cogan Spur i'r gyffordd â Marconi Avenue, bydd hyn yn cynnwys ffordd gylchol y cynhyrfa ym Marconi Avenue, er y bydd yn dal i alluogi traffig i adael Penarth tua'r gogledd-orllewin yn unig. <b>3/ A4160 - Heol Penarth</b> (ar gau yn y ddau gyfeiriad) o'r gyffordd ag A4055 Cogan Spur/Barry Road tua'r gogledd-orllewin i ffin y sir â Chaerdydd yn Afon Elai. <b>4/ A4055 - Barry Road</b> o'r gyffordd ag A4160 Heol Penarth tua'r de-orllewin i'r gyffordd â Penlan Road, wrth gyffordd Merrie Harrier, Llandochoau (bydd y ffordd hon ar gau i draffig yn mynd i'r gogledd-ddwyrain yn unig, bydd hyn yn galluogi traffig i adael Penarth i gyffordd Merrie Harrier). <b>5/ Llandough Hill</b> (ar gau yn y ddau gyfeiriad), o'r gyffordd â Heol Penarth am tua 210m tua'r gorllewin. <b>6/ Marconi Avenue</b> (ar gau yn y ddau gyfeiriad), o'r gyffordd ag A4160 Windsor Road (Cogan Hill), i'r gyffordd â Terra Nova Way, bydd hyn yn cynnwys ffordd gylchol y gylchfan yn Terra Nova Way. <b>7/ Terra Nova Way</b> (y ddau gyfeiriad), <b>8/ Penarth Portway</b> (ar gau yn y ddau gyfeiriad), rhwng Terra Nova Way a maes parcio'r morglawdd, gan gynnwys ffordd gylchol y gylchfan wrth y gyffordd â Terra Nova Way. <b>9/ Bydd Paget Road</b> (a adnabyddir hefyd fel Dock Road) (ar gau yn y ddau gyfeiriad) hefyd ar gau rhwng y gyffordd â Paget Terrace a Penarth Portway, bydd hyn yn cynnwys ffordd gylchol y gylchfan wrth y gyffordd â Penarth Portway.	09.00am tan 12.00pm  09.00am tan 12.00pm  09.00am tan 12.00pm  09.00am tan 12.00pm  09.00am tan 12.00pm  09.45am tan 12.00pm  09.45am tan 12.00pm  09.45am tan 12.00pm

Caiff arwyddion eu codi ar gyfer gwyriadau i draffig na all ddefnyddio A4055 Cogan Spur/Barry Road nac A4160 Heol Penarth drwy B4267 Penlan Road a Leckwith Road, oherwydd pont wan ar waelod Leckwith Hill, bydd y llwybr hwn yn anaddas i gerbydau dros 7.5 tonnelli (11 tonnelli os mai cerbydau gwasanaeth cyhoeddus ar llwybr lleol ydynt, cerbydau Gwasanaethau Brys, cerbydau Cynnal a Chadw Prifdydd yr Awdurdod (Leol), bydd rhaid i gerbydau mwy deithio ar hyd yr A4231 Ffordd Gyswilt Dociau'r Barri, ac A4050 Port Road.

Dyddiedig 22 o Fedi 2016

M. E. Punter  
Cyfarwyddwr Amgylchedd a Thai  
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg  
Depo The Alps  
Gwenfô, CF5 6AA



**THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL**  
**TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE ORDER, SECTION 16A ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**  
**CARDIFF HALF MARATHON - PENARTH**  
**SUNDAY 2nd OCTOBER 2016**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Vale of Glamorgan Council have made an order under Section 16A Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as follows:-

WHEREAS during certain hours of the day and date specified in column 1 of the Schedule hereto the streets or part thereof listed in column 2 of the said Schedule will be used for the holding of a relevant event as described in Section 16(A)(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the Council, pursuant to the powers conferred by Section 16A of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 do **HEREBY ORDER AND DIRECT** in order to facilitate the holding of the event, enable members of the public to watch the said event and to reduce the disruption to traffic likely to be caused by the event the following regulation shall be observed:-


THAT, except as provided by the order, the said streets or parts thereof shall be closed to all vehicular traffic including pedal cycles **with the exception of Emergency Services Vehicles** between the hours specified in column 3 of the said schedule. The penalty for infringement of the said regulation is a fine not exceeding £1000.00

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Sunday 2nd October 2016	<b>1/ A4055 - Cogan Spur</b> (closed in both directions) from its junction with the A4160 Penarth Road in a north easterly direction to the county boundary. <b>2/ A4160 - Windsor Road (Cogan Hill)</b> closed in a south easterly direction from its junction with the A4055 Cogan Spur to its junction with Marconi Avenue, this will include the gyratory of the roundabout at Marconi Avenue, though it will still allow traffic to exit Penarth in a north westerly direction only. <b>3/ A4160 - Penarth Road</b> (closed in both directions) from its junction with the A4055 Cogan Spur/Barry Road in a generally north westerly direction to the county boundary with Cardiff at the river Ely. <b>4/ A4055 - Barry Road</b> from its junction with the A4160 Penarth Road in a generally south westerly direction to its junction with Penlan Road, at the Merrie Harrier junction Llandough (this road will only be closed to northeast bound traffic, this will allow traffic to exit from Penarth to the Merrie Harrier junction). <b>5/ Llandough Hill</b> (closed in both directions), from its junction with Penarth Road for a distance of approximately 210m in a generally westerly direction. <b>6/ Marconi Avenue</b> (closed in both directions), from its junction with the A4160 Windsor Road (Cogan Hill), to its junction with Terra Nova Way, this will include the gyratory of the roundabout at Terra Nova Way. <b>7/ Terra Nova Way</b> (both directions), throughout its length. <b>8/ Penarth Portway</b> (closed in both directions), between Terra Nova Way and the barrage car park, including the gyratory of the roundabout at its junction with Terra Nova Way. <b>9/ Paget Road</b> (also known as Dock Road) (closed in both directions), will also be closed between its junction with Paget Terrace and Penarth Portway, this will include the gyratory of the roundabout at its junction with Penarth Portway.	09.00am to 12.00noon  09.00am to 12.00noon  09.00am to 12.00noon  09.00am to 12.00noon  09.45am to 12.00noon  09.45am to 12.00noon  09.45am to 12.00noon

Signed diversions shall be in operation for traffic unable to use A4055 Cogan Spur/Barry Road and A4160 Penarth Road will be in place via the B4267 Penlan Road and Leckwith Road, due to a weak bridge at the bottom of Leckwith Hill this route will be unsuitable for vehicles over 7.5 tonnes (11 tonnes if they are a public service vehicle on a local route, Emergency Service vehicles, local Authority Highway Maintenance vehicles), larger vehicles will have to travel via the A4231 Barry Docks Link, and A4050 Port Road.

Dated this 22nd day of September 2016

M. E. Punter  
Director of Environment & Housing  
Vale of Glamorgan Council  
The Alps Depot  
Wenvoe CF5 6AA





## Vale United take the spoils in top-of-the-table clash

**THIS top of the top of the table clash between Vale United and Barry Athletic was tipped by many to be the game of the weekend throughout the VOGL and it certainly didn't disappoint.**

The teams were willing to go toe-to-toe from the first whistle. Vale showed a handful of changes, with Rhys Davies coming in for his first start of the season, replacing skipper Richard Evans, who was moved into a central striking role at the expense of Nathan Jenkins.

There was wholesale changes in midfield, with the returning Matt Hobbs and Joe Williams slotting in alongside Ryan Jenkins, playing in an unfamiliar deeper role.

The game started at a ferocious pace, tackles flying in from both teams but with a referee willing to play advantage, the game settled down and both teams managed to showcase their football talent.

The away team were unlucky not to put their noses in front, when a fumble from home goalkeeper, Gerwyn Teague, presented the Athletic number 9 with an opportunity, which was brilliantly foiled by an outstanding block by man of the match Joe Williams.

This shook the hosts into action and it was they who should have taken the lead not long after. A scramble in the Athletic box following a corner saw the ball breaking to Jack Dummett; his ferocious effort crashed off the underside of the bar and into the grateful arms of the Barry keeper.

Minutes later, Athletic had a goal disallowed for offside, despite the protestations of the travelling fans. The 0-0 half-time scoreline really didn't do

the game justice, with plenty of attacking intent on show.

The second half started with Vale on the front foot, with Athletic looking to soak up the pressure and hit Vale on the counter attack, though this was batted away by the superb Vale defence, impeccably marshalled by Steve Harris and ably assisted by Rhys Davies, Rhys Edwards and the ever-dependable James Davies.

Vale were now well on top and felt they should have been awarded a penalty on the hour mark, however, the referee deemed the offence was committed outside the box and instead awarded a free-kick.

What followed was a sublime bit of quality from the returning Hobbs; a whipped free kick evaded the wall and nestled in the goalkeeper's top right hand corner.

The opening goal rattled the away side, who let their frustration show with a series of late and needless challenges earning them a spate of yellow cards, which ultimately resulted in a red for the Barry side's striker.

Despite their one man disadvantage, it was the away team who had the next chance, squandering a one-on-one against Teague.

Vale should really have doubled their lead, with the unlucky Dummett once again rattling the woodwork, though this didn't prove costly in the grand scheme of things.

Vale saw out the remaining five minutes comfortably to maintain their 100 per cent start to the season, and also recording a third consecutive clean sheet which, in turn, sent them five points clear at the top of the fledgling league table.

GT

## THE UNDER-9 TEAMS KICK OFF AT HOME

**THE Vale Of Glamorgan mini football section kicked off their season this weekend and the three Llantwit Major under-9 teams started with home fixtures in glorious late summer sun.**

The format for this season has changed to previous ones with teams being paired together and travelling the Vale for the matches.

Llantwit Saints and Lions welcomed Cowbridge while the Dragons welcomed Dinas Powys and Inter Penarth to Windmill Lane.

From the moment the first whistle blew all teams got stuck in and it didn't look like it was their first match after a summer break!

All matches were closely contested with the players gelling well and following the game plans laid out to them by their coaches at training.

Having played their

allotted hour it was down to the coaches to choose their player of the week.

The Lions award went to Bledwyn Daw who had a fantastic few games.

The Dragons award was a tough decision as two players had shone on the day, however it was felt that Jack Farrer had done an amazing job in goal with some fine saves, last man defending and distribution.

The Saints also struggled to choose and in the end the coach decided that all players had played superbly so it was shared amongst the team.

The coaches and players would like to say a massive thank you to the three companies who have stepped in as kit sponsors for the new strips - Thunder Road Motorcycles, Install A Stove and Old White Hart.

This week sees the teams at home again with Park Lions and Island Marine making the trip to Windmill Lane.

IG

## Morale-boosting win for the Cowbridge under-13s

**HAVING suffered at the hands of Llanishen the week before, Cowbridge under-13s notched up a much needed win at Old Penarthians RFC to boost morale.**

Cowbridge were on top from the off with the back division's tightened defence to the fore.

Good work from the excellent midfield partnership of Paddy Kennedy and Rhys Hardman set up an opening score for returning full-back Iolo Davies.

Two short range tries followed shortly after for Alfie Rees and Rhys Pritchard, who used his bulk for a trademark score from eight inches out!

The back row of Ifor Rees, skipper Akka Guwy and Rob Brown were by now a marauding presence in the loose and Old Pens needed to be stout in defence to deal with the impressive carrying of Aaron Kempson.

The home defence held out well until Aaron Holcombe crossed for a score via some neat footwork on the stroke of half-time. Akka Guwy kicked three conversions to leave the half-time score Old Pens 0, Cowbridge 26.

The second period saw

a much changed Cowbridge outfit pick up where they had left off. Having been lightweight at the breakdown despite their dominance, the introduction of the excellent Will Ryan added some much needed continuity. The backs, orchestrated nicely by Steffan Evans from 10, looked incisive with ball in hand, with Paddy Kennedy crossing for two fine individual scores and a typical muscular James Jones trundle yielding another. Akka added two further conversions and Will Harris another.

The plucky Old Pens outfit kept going and crossed for a deserved score with time running out. On the stroke of full-time, Will Ryan carried several defenders with him and crossed in the corner to round off the scoring, the game ending Old Pens 7, Cowbridge 52.

This was a good display against game opposition with solid contributions from the entire squad. Sterner tests await, however, with the forwards needing to knuckle down and improve their work at the breakdown and the backs guilty of overplaying and neglecting to let the ball do the work at times. The coaches were nonetheless left pleased by the skills, attitude and sportsmanship of the squad and look forward to their continued application and development over the coming weeks.

Squad: Luke Treadwell, Finlay Ball, Sebastian Johns-Powell, Alfie Rees, Tom Brennan, Aron Kempson, Will Ryan, Oliver Jones, Ifor Rees, Robbie Brown, Akka Guwy, Archie Lloyd, Rhys Pritchard, Steffan Evans, Paddy Kennedy, Aaron Holcombe, Rhys Hardman, Finlay Brace, James Jones, Iolo Davies, Will Harris. IH

## Bridge results

**RESULTS from the Vale of Glamorgan bridge club for the last two weeks:**

September 12: 1st Mia Deschepper & Mike Pownell 62.15%, 2nd Geoff Tinkler & John Henson 55.21%, 3rd Linda Jenkins & Graham Norris 54.51%.

September 19: 1st Tony Disley & Phil Felman 66.14%, 2nd Steve Burgoyne & John Evans 59.32%, 3rd Mike Best & Kevin Maddox 58.13%.

LE

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# PENCOED RFC NEWS ROUND-UP

## Defence wins the day as firsts edge out Morrision

**THIS extremely narrow Division 2 West Central 3-0 victory for Pencoed was again based on a stout defensive effort, the home side unable to break down Pencoed's well-organised and determined line defence.**

It was Pencoed who started the better of the two sides and outside half Adam Williams gave his side the lead with a penalty goal, ultimately the only score of the match!

The home side then enjoyed a period of pressure in the Pencoed 22 but aggressive defence kept Morrision at bay before full back Tom Cross put in a lengthy clearance chased hard by young Jamie Dyer, who did well to catch the home full back in possession and give Pencoed position in the home half.

Morrision were enjoying the territorial advantage during the half but having missed a number of kickable penalties it was Pencoed who led at the interval with the solitary successful shot at goal.

The half-time introduction of experienced front row forwards Tom Drew and David Pearson appeared to galvanize the Pencoed effort, with this most apparent in the early second half scrummages.

Morrision returned to pressure the pencoed line with Dyer making a try-saving tackle metres out. Play was now becoming to and fro with Pencoed centre Rhys Thomas making an important tackle in midfield with the home side threatening on the counter attack.

Going into the final 10 minutes, and with the Pencoed scrum becoming increasingly dominant, they were able to gain a foothold in the home 22 and desperate home defence saw Morrision pick up a yellow card metres

from their own line and following a lengthy stoppage and much to the annoyance of the Pencoed support, the home side resorted to passive scrums with a pencoed score likely at the next set piece.

Pencoed continued on top in the final moments, creating a number of chances deep in the Morrision 22 but were unable to finish.

On the balance of play territorially over the 80 minutes the home side will feel they should have edged matters; however the never say die attitude of the Pencoed defensive effort, allied to a strong finish to the match brought them victory and their second win in consecutive weeks on the road.

On Saturday, Pencoed entertain Maesteg Celtic at the Recreation Ground, 2.30pm kick-off.

TR



Pictures by  
Sophie Bee

## TONDU RFC IN CONTROL AS THEY CRUISE TO WIN



**TONDU RFC took control of this game against Cwmavon from the first minute with a try from Matthew**

**Murphy after great work from the forwards.**

Paul Smithson added the two points to give the home side an early

7-0 advantage.

Cwmavon's outside half Camron Bamford then kicked a penalty before the Tondy

forwards went back on the rampage, ending up with Scott Walters crashing over.

Bamford slotted his second penalty for the visitors before Tondy scored the game's best try.

Scrum half Aled Jones broke down the middle from his own half and some sensational handling saw Matthew John sail over for a wonderful try, Smithson adding the conversation to make it 17-6.

Bamford kicked his third penalty before Tondy wrapped up a first half bonus point with a second try for Matthew Rowe.

The second half was much the same story with the home side looking the only team likely to score tries.

Bamford slotted two further penalties for the visitors to one from Smithson, but three more tries from a rampaging Tondy side came from Josh Tatchell, Daniel Watts and a gem from wing Sam Grabbham, which sealed the win in this Division 2 silver ball game.

DN

MS

## Seconds settle down to record victory over Pyle RFC

## SEVERELY UNDER-STRENGTH PHOENIX BATTLE IN VAIN...



Aaron  
Songhurst.



Lewis  
Jenkins.



Emma  
Marsh.

**PENCOED Phoenix travelled with over 50 per cent of their squad unavailable and started this match against Ynysybwl ladies with 14 players, the sequence of match events to follow quite remarkable.**

The home side took a 6-0 lead with two penalty goals from outside half Emma Meredith. Strong running from Phoenix debutant Emma Marsh posed problems for the home side and the Phoenix side were more than holding their own despite being a player down.

However it was the home side who got the first try of the match through scrum half Megan Lloyd to lead 11-0.

A 70 metre counter-attack from Phoenix full back Leanne Burnell put her side on the attack; unfortunately, Phoenix spilled the ball out wide and the chance was lost.

Rhiannydd Morgan then showed her appetite in the tackle area making a number of hits in quick succession against some of the bigger opposition.

Burnell was again in the picture, almost dancing her way through in the home 22 before shortly after collecting the ball in her own 22 to counter some 50 metres.

Phoenix then suffered a cruel blow losing influential half backs Amy Stevens and

TR Morgan with injuries



Charlie  
Mundy.



Amie  
Stevens.



Rhiannydd  
Morgan.

within a minute!

Despite being reduced to 12 players Phoenix hit back with their opening try, centre Charlotte Mundy (now one of only three threequarters as Phoenix were having to match numbers at the set piece) intercepted some 40 metres out before kicking ahead and being impeded in the act of scoring, which gained the penalty try, Mundy adding the extras.

Natalie O'Shea typified the Phoenix effort with her aggressive running and remarkably Phoenix took the lead, the evasive Burnell putting them on the attack for centre Marsh to crash over.

A yellow card for Phoenix brought them

down to 11 players and inevitably the home side got their second try, converted by Meredith to lead 18-12.

A further yellow card reduced Phoenix to 10 players and a resultant penalty denied them a losing bonus point which their efforts in adversity had deserved.

Another Phoenix injury in the closing moments saw them finish the match, unbelievably, with nine players!

The outstanding Leanne Burnell was chosen Phoenix player of the match.

This Sunday, Pencoed Phoenix host Ynysybwl in a National League match, 2.30pm kick-off.

TR

**WITH Pencoed second XV not having played for some considerable time, and including five debutants, naturally they took time to settle down and conceded two early tries in this game against Pyle second XV.**

As the half progressed Pencoed hit back strongly with a fine individual try from Aaron Songhurst. New home centre Gareth Thomas was prominent with some strong running but it was the visitors who led 21-24 at the interval.

Pencoed continued to improve during the second half to run out 48-38 winners, scoring eight tries in total through Aaron Songhurst (2), Gareth Thomas (2), Lewys Jenkins (2) Harry

Legg Edwards and Scott Griffiths.

For Pencoed up front, flankers Legg Edwards and Griffiths were prominent at six and seven respectively, while behind the scrum skipper and scrum half Tom Daniel sent out a fine service, with Jenkins making a 14 point match contribution.

Credit to the Pyle team who continued to battle hard when down to 14 men, and thanks are expressed to the Pyle club for making the match possible at relatively short notice.

From Pencoed, thanks are also expressed to Tom Daniel, instrumental in getting the second XV back up and running.

On Saturday, the second XV play a Mid-Glamorgan & District League Division 1 match at Maesteg Harlequins, 2.30pm kick-off.

TR

## News from Bridgend Bridge Club

**THE results for Bridgend Bridge Club for recent events are:**

**Wednesday, September 14:** First, Bill Turner and Debbie Lea; Second, Irene Thomas and Graham Jones; Joint Third, Glyn Williams and Irene Wickham & Rob Forman and Alan Heath.

**Thursday, September 15:** Joint First, Maggie Ashpole and Stuart Davies; Second, Eileen Mahoney and Geoff Barnett; Third, John Henson and Mike Williams. The winners on handicap were Maggie Ashpole and Stuart Davies.

**Friday, September 16:** The John Raymond Transport Cup for teams: First, Mike Best, Kevin Maddox, Irene Wickham and Mari Jones; Second, Dian Jones, Pat Cogbill, Steve Burgoyne and John Evans; Third, Terry Dolan, John Henson,

Irene Thomas and Graham Jones.

Regular club nights take place on Wednesday and Friday evenings at 7pm at Noltan Church Hall. On Thursday afternoons also at Noltan Church Hall there are gentle bridge sessions when advice is readily available on bidding.

Following the success of last year's lessons there is another course on Thursdays at 11.30am at Noltan Church Hall.

It is suitable for both complete beginners and for those who have played either whist or bridge in the past and want to start playing again further their knowledge of this fascinating game.

For further information about this friendly club and its activities please contact Steve Burgoyne on 01656 661958, John Evans on 01656 880372 or David Newman on 01656 649138.



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Western Mail	18,641	Paid 80p
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Wales on Sunday	14,789	Paid £1.50

The GEM's weekly figures include door to door delivery and numerous popular outlets from Penarth to Porthcawl

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## Family Notices

### WILLSON

**Avril**

Peacefully passed away on September 14 at the Heath Hospital, Cardiff, Avril, aged 69 years, of Grayburn House, Barry. Beloved wife of Trevor and dearly loved mother of Karl, Stephen, Dean and Natasha.

Avril will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

Resting at The Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Barry until her service and committal at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Tuesday, September 27 at 10am. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, may be made at the service to support Cancer Research in memory of Avril. Further enquiries contact Lyndsay Ellis, 01446 407962.

## Situations Vacant

### Personal Assistant(s) Wanted

A disabled lady in the Cowbridge area offering a part time job for 10-12 hours per week. The purpose of the job is to support with all aspects of daily living, £8.50 per hour. Casual hours/cover also available. Closing date 23rd October 2016. For further details please contact: Dewi Centre for Independent Living (01443) 827930. Quote Ref: VC0014. Successful applicants are required to provide an enhanced disclosure, expense to be met by employer. Charity No 1098229.



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## Birthdays

**Fred  
Clissett**  
**Happy 90th  
Birthday**  
on 24th September  
Have a lovely day,  
Love and best wishes  
Margaret xxx

## Public Notices

### PUBLIC NOTICE LICENSING ACT 2003 Section 17 (5)

Notice of Application for a Premises Licence  
**NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT**  
An application has been made to Bridgend County Borough Council (the Licensing Authority) for a

#### PREMISES LICENCE.

To permit licensable activities which it is proposed will be carried on, on or from the premises shown below. Details of the application may be inspected between the hours of: Monday to Thursday 0930 to 1700 hours and Friday 0930 to 1630 hours at Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB or by visiting the authority's website: [www.bridgend.gov.uk](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk).

Any responsible authority or any other person may make representations in respect of the application, which must be submitted, in writing, to the following address before the date shown below:- Licensing Section, Bridgend County Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB.

Name of applicant: MR GARETH ROBERTS  
Name and postal address of the premises: 13 PENYBONT ROAD, PENCOED, BRIDGEND, CF35 5PY

#### Statement of intended licensable activities:

SALE OF ALCOHOL FROM HOURS 10:00 TO 00:15

MONDAY - SUNDAY

PLAYING OF RECORDED MUSIC FROM HOURS 10:00 TO 00:30 MONDAY - SUNDAY

Date by which representations must be made:

Thursday 13th October 2016

This notice remains in force from and including the day after the giving of this notice to the licensing authority, namely 15th September 2016, for 28 consecutive days.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine on summary conviction is £5,000.

## To Let

### TO LET BARRY

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GCH, carpets, newly decorated. Deposit and reference required. For further details  
**07977 102907**

## Lost & Found

**Small Black Cat**  
found at Palmerston  
Allotments last weekend. Seen there from Friday, September 9. It has been taken to SHUA cat rescue in Barry. All queries to them via E-mail [contact@shua.org.uk](mailto:contact@shua.org.uk) or phone/text **07831216170**.

## Acknowledgements

### AMOS

**Alan John**

Pam and Russell would like to thank their family and the many friends and neighbours who attended the celebration of Alan's life.

We would like to thank you all for the beautiful cards and messages received. Our grateful thanks to Pastor Ken and Bette for the loving, warm service at Mount Pleasant. Thank you to the team at Barry Town Social Club for all their hard work making Alan's farewell such a success. A big thank you to Lyndsay Ellis and team at the Vale Funeral Service, your professionalism, warmth and kindness will never be forgotten. Finally, thank you all for your kind donations to Marie Curie and Holme Towers in memory of Alan.

God bless you all.

**To advertise your situations vacant, family notices, birthdays, anniversaries etc. Call Sue on 01446 774484 email: [gemsales@tindlenews.co.uk](mailto:gemsales@tindlenews.co.uk)**



# EASTERN VALE PARISHES HOST VISIT FROM SWEDISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Photographs by IAN DIXON

RECENTLY, the Eastern Vale Group of Parishes welcomed visitors from Sweden – a party from the Lutheran Church, on a twinning trip.

On the first day of the two-day trip, the guests visited all seven churches in the eastern Vale group, with a break for lunch at St Nicholas Church Hall. In the afternoon, they stayed in St Nicholas for a meeting, followed by an evening prayer at St Nicholas Church.

On the second day, they visited a farm in Pendoylan, and also popped in to Pendoylan Church-in-Wales Primary School.

This was followed by a leisurely afternoon in Peterston-super-Ely.

The finale to the trip was worship at St Peter's Church, and a Welsh-themed evening meal in the church hall.



## Countdown to Enfys craft fair

**THE October Enfys fair will take place on Saturday, October 1 at St Fransis Millennium Hall, Park Road, Barry, between 10am until 4pm.**

The raffle last month raised £105, which included the sale of Louise's mouth-watering cakes which Louise had baked before going on holiday. Well done, Louise.

This month's charity is Rozmogz cat rescue, which was set up in June 2015 by three friends who felt there was a need for another cat rescue project in Cardiff due to the overwhelming number of stray and unwanted cats.

Roz, Anna and Sheena run the project

from their homes. They take in stray cats and kittens which are looked after in pens until they can find them new, loving homes.

In the past year, they have found homes for 250 cats and kittens.

Check out their Facebook and blog pages where you will see photographs of the cats and kittens available for adoption.

Many visitors come along especially to savour the delicious food from Ann's kitchen. She will be ready with her refreshments and drinks for your enjoyment.

For more information about the fair, contact Reg on 01446 792149 or Patricia on 01656 880784.

*As these images by Ian Dixon show, the group from the Swedish Lutheran Church made the most of their twinning visit to the Vale.*



## CALL FOR MORE FOSTER CARERS

**BRIDGEND county borough council has renewed an appeal to parents whose children have 'flown the nest,' to consider becoming foster carers.**

Bridgend County Borough Council's deputy leader, Coun Huw David, said: "The need for foster carers is real; an estimated 500 more are needed across Wales in 2016 to meet the rising number of children coming into the care system each year.

"Wherever you live in Bridgend county borough, you are living near to children who need your help. The

wealth of experience parents that have from raising a family and the empty nest they often find themselves in at this time of the year provides the ideal opportunity to offer children in desperate need of a loving home a place to reach their potential.

"Fostering is not only a very important role, but also a rewarding experience and BCBC works hard to ensure all carers receive the advice and support they need."

Visit [www.bridgendfostercare.wales/](http://www.bridgendfostercare.wales/) emptynesters to find out more or contact the fostering team on 01656 642674.



# Finals day held at St Athan Golf Club

IT doesn't seem a year since St Athan Golf Club's finest last competed in their annual finals day, but on Saturday, September 17, this year's successful competitors assembled at the club ready to take on their opponents.

The opening match teed off at 7.45am with the club captain, Craig Sherman defending his championship title against Steve Bacon.

It was the first time that Steve had been in contention for the club's prestigious title and he resigned himself to an early defeat when he went 5 down after 19 holes.

Craig lost concentration and Steve was as surprised as the spectators to find he was only one down going onto the 36th.

Craig didn't get his tee shot away well and adrenaline played a part in his next shot, his 8 iron being too big and sending his ball into the back bunker which saw him concede the hole, forcing the match down to a 37th hole play-off.

With Steve on the green in 3 against Craig's 4 and with a 15 foot putt, it appeared that Steve may take the title; however with Craig then sinking his putt and Steve 3 putting it ensured Craig was once again named St Athan's club champion.

It was a case of déjà vu for John and Pete Morgan, once again playing against each other for the Plate.

John was hopeful that he could emulate his 2014 win over Pete and was not deterred when he found himself two down after 18.

However, bad shots from John on 3 consecutive holes and a couple of lucky breaks for Pete meant John had to finally concede after 33 holes.

Stu Thomas started his match in the Rabbit's final full of trepidation; losing this title in 2015



after once being seven holes up, he was determined that complacency would not play any part in his game against Josh Morgan.

He held the game well for the front 18 but with fatigue setting in and youth on his opponents' side, Josh soon steamed ahead in the second half, finishing Stu off on the 32nd.

Keith Lewis was delighted to be a finalist for the Dan Archer Trophy, after a bad season last year when he considered giving up golf.

He worked hard on his game and went into the match full of confidence against chairman of play, Gary Bohun. Gary was 3 up after 12 but Keith managed to keep the game alive for another four holes before graciously congratulating his opponent on the 16th green.

The Fairwood Park was a real family affair - Russ Brookes and his son Gareth were up

against another father and son pairing, Jim and Barry Hawkins, in the only pairings match of the day.

The game was nip and tuck throughout, resulting in the players approaching the 18th tee with Russ and Gareth one down and all to play for.

Unfortunately for them Barry ensured this hole was halved by chipping in and preventing the 'sudden death' rule being enforced.

Terry Scott and Roger Davidge were both competing for the Sunderland Trophy, a medal round handicap competition reserved for the veteran section of the club.

This was the only game where the golfers were playing against the course and even though Terry carded a score within his 'buffer zone', Roger was delighted to play to his handicap, scoring a 72 nett and taking the veteran's trophy.

Longstanding lady members Jackie

Hawkins and Rose Dawson were both optimistic in their bid for the title 'Millennium Plate winner' and their match remained with both in contention until the 11th.

It was then that Jackie found her momentum and won the next four holes in succession before halving the 15th and securing the win.

The ladies championship saw Michelle Bligh and Erin Allison come head-to-head once again.

This was always going to be a hard fought battle as both are former champions, 2014 and 2015 respectively.

Erin powered to a four hole lead after only five holes had been played but Michelle managed to pull two back by the turn.

Unfortunately it wasn't enough as Erin kept her composure before again increasing the deficit, finishing the match 4 and 3 and retaining the ladies' championship title.

CM



## Wenvoe Castle wins the Jim Davies Knockout Cup



**WENVOE** Castle Golf Club are founder members of the Hallett Golf Society which was set up in south east Wales just after World War Two and now has a membership of 37 golf clubs covering a wide geographical area, from Brecon down to Penarth and from Maesteg in the west across to Newport in the east.

The Society provides the opportunity for higher handicap golfers to represent their clubs within a league format together with a knockout competition known as the Jim Davies Cup.

To win either the Hallett League Trophy or the Jim Davies Cup requires considerable success over several months of competitive golf and this year Wenvoe Castle found the winning formula to win the knockout trophy for the first time since 2008.

Along the way to the final the club defeated Newport, Virginia Park, Morlais Castle and eventually Dinas Powis in the semi-final on a home and away basis.

The final is traditionally played at Wenvoe Castle but to avoid home advantage a neutral course, Pyle and Kenfig, was selected where they would meet their opponents Woodlake Park.

With handicaps limited to 18 and over, the matches are played in a foursomes format and after 18 holes of keenly contested golf the two teams couldn't be separated with the score ending up at 2-2.

Sudden death was required and each captain was required to select a pair to contest the sudden death, a daunting prospect for the players selected.

Team captain Viv Hulbert selected Keith Holgate and Peter Tarry, who comfortably won their earlier match and their momentum was maintained as they won the sudden death play-off on the first hole.

Club captain Paul Coombs congratulated the team on winning the prestigious trophy and in particular the way the team had represented the club throughout the competition.

Clearly delighted with their success the photograph shows the members of the team displaying the Jim Davies Cup and their individual trophies:

*Pictured are: (back row) Mike Brown, Alfie Hitchcock, Peter Tarry, Russell Owens and Martin Lewis. Front row: Dr Keith Holgate, team captain Viv Hulbert and Dai Hutchings.*

BJ



Go to our dedicated sports page for the latest stories and breaking news... @sport\_gem





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## Encouraging signs as new chess season gets under way

**THE new chess season started on September 1, but due to the variances in the fixture list and requests to amend fixtures, the Barry Chess Club had to wait until September 12 for the first match.**

However, like a Number 9 bus, the fixtures came together with three of our teams playing over two nights. For some of our players, this meant they played games on consecutive nights.

For the first time for quite a few years, our four teams find themselves playing in different divisions. With the loss of one of our strongest players, it seems likely that all of our teams may struggle this season. Rather than playing for titles and promotions, there could be some relegation fights instead.

Last week, the Camels travelled to Caerphilly. As I am sure will be the case on numerous occasions this season we were outgraded on most boards. So, to come away with three draws and two defeats was not a bad start to the season.

The Quarks also hosted a match against the Cardiff Dragons, who had been relegated from division 2 last season. A strong encounter was anticipated and with their bottom board outranking four of our boards, to gain anything from this would be unlikely.

However, with the return of Mark Cooke and his son, Tom, to our ranks, we did manage to win two of the games, courtesy of the Cooke family, to lose by the closest possible margin of 3-2.

The bright spot for Barry came the next day when the Gambits in

Division 4 travelled to Cardiff to take on another recently relegated team in the Cardiff Cavaliers. Stephen Bonutto and Dave Mahoney playing matches on consecutive days.

A change in the team captain clearly worked wonders as we returned home having taken the spoils with a 4-1 victory. At this early stage the Gambits head the table. There are only a further 15 rounds to go!

On another bright not, I can see that after the summer programme and the start of the league, we have two players who appear in the Alec Wood table for highest increase in ratings: Nigel Ralphs is currently in third place, with an increase of 50 ratings points. It seems improbable that Nigel will be able to maintain this position due to his high starting rating and the lack of games he plays.

However, Stephen Bonutto lies in fifth place, with an increase of 37 ratings points. As Stephen plays as many games as he can, I have high hopes that he can bring the trophy back to Barry, where it belongs.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30pm each Monday at the West End Club, St Nicholas Road, Barry, CF62 6QY. The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess, or just the occasional friendly games.

*New players are welcome to just turn up on the night, or contact one of the club members through the website at*

*http://barrychessclub.yolasite.com.*  
**PHIL JONES**

## Centurions round off season in style

**SULLY Centurions Cricket Club brought down the curtain on the 2016 season with a friendly match against a touring side from Bicester in Oxfordshire, on Saturday.**

Centurions batted first and brothers Ali and Awais Chaudhary both hit half centuries as the runs started to pile up.

Aron Arthur just missed out on a 50, being not out for 46 at the end. However, all of the batsmen chipped in with runs and Sully ended up on 232 for 5 after the allotted 35 overs.

After tea, which was provided by Morrison's of Barry, the visitors sent out their finest and were soon in trouble. Tary Dhanjal and Terry Williams had the first

three batsmen back in the pavilion for just 12 runs.

They didn't recover from this disastrous start and wickets began falling regularly. Terry Williams was the pick of the Centurions' bowlers, posting figures of 3 for 11. Tary (2-19) Aron (2-1) and Jason Hicks (2-10) all returned decent figures, as the innings came to a close on 76 all out. Sully's Patrick Lane guested for Bicester and ended up as their top scorer on 20 not out!

Once again many thanks to Morrison's of Barry for providing the tea, which was enjoyed by all.

*Sully Centurions 232-5, Bicester XI 76 all out.*

**MF**

## Romilly bowlers enjoy finals day

**BARRY Romilly Bowling Club men's section held their 2016 inter-club competitions on Saturday at Romilly Park.**

Beginning at 9.30am the four wood pairs competition took place between the Bannisters, father Des along with son Alan, who took on Kelyne Mills and Graham Cogbill.

After 10 ends Mills and Cogbill had a 17-0 lead but the score did not reflect how close the ends were with Mills in particular playing well and the Bannisters unlucky on a number of ends.

The game changed completely on end 11 with the Bannisters scoring their first shot which was the catalyst for a comeback, with the

Bannisters taking nine of the next 10 ends to finally go down by just four shots 19-15.

Two more games were played at 12.30pm with the men's two wood competition between Alan Bryan and Clive Collins going to Collins 15-9.

The other game was the Mottram Cup which featured Alan Bannister and Denis Mottram, whose father presented the cup in honour of grandfather Henry Mottram, who was involved with the Romilly Club in the early 1900s.

The game began with Mottram making the early running and leading 13-7 after 15 ends; then the experience of Bannister came to the forefront and he took seven of the last eight ends to win 21-14.

The 3pm session included the club championship along with the handicap and Tim Evans cups.

The handicap competition involved Jeff Coles and Alan Bannister, who was playing his third game of the day. Both players were evenly matched and playing off scratch and the game was closely fought as expected with the score ending 21-17 in favour of Coles.

The Tim Evans Trophy was fought

between club captain Mike Doyle and Des Bannister with Doyle holding the upper hand throughout, winning comfortably 22-13.

The club championship was the final game of the day between Phil Gershenson and Graham Cogbill in ever-improving weather.

The game was expected to be a close affair with Cogbill the slight favourite and the score after five ends was 6-3 in favour of Cogbill.

Over the next five ends Gershenson began to find the line and length on a tricky green and took four of the five ends to take a 11-7 lead.

Each of the ends 11 to 15 were only won by a single shot but it was Gershenson who maintained his lead increasing it 14-9.

The next four ends went in favour of the leader who now led 19-10, but you can't take Cogbill for granted as he stormed back with two 3s on ends 21 and 22 to narrow the score to 19-16.

That's as close as Cogbill got as Gershenson, already holding one, bowled a brilliant wood for shot and a two to win 21-16.

Congratulations must go to all bowlers who contested their games keenly making for exciting finals. **FP**

## 'HAVE HORSE WILL TRAVEL'

**'HAVE horse, will travel'.**

That's the motto of Aberthyn trainer Tim Vaughan who sent his five-year-old grey gelding Theligny, who was racing for the first time in 303 days, on the long trip to Kelso where ridden by champion jockey Richard Johnson he landed the opening Barbara McLeod Memorial Maiden Hurdle, romping home a 14 lengths winner from the Donald McCain trained Derintoher Yank.

Theligny, who had been runner-up in both its previous outings, was well fancied and was returned the 5-6 favourite.

**BRIAN LEE**

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# Vale of Glamorgan Football League news round-up

**THE big game of the day saw the top pair in Division Two go head to head.**

Both teams came in with 100 per cent records but it was Cadoxton Imps who displayed quite the dominance as they smashed Barry Saints' perfect record to bits with a huge 7-2 victory.

Elsewhere in the division it was much more closely contested; St Athan B notched a much-needed 2-1 win over Barry Albion, Island Marine B edged out bottom side Rhose B 1-0 and Penarth B defeated FC Pumas B by the same scoreline.

In Division One FC Pumas went top of the league after a thrilling 4-3 triumph over Barry Athletic B.

SP Billy bagged a 3-1 over Cadoxton Athletic and Sully won 5-4 in an exciting contest against Dockers.

Goals were also aplenty as Glenbrook and Cadoxton Barry gained their first points of the season as they played out a 4-4 draw.

Division One champions Cogan saw off Cardiff Airport 3-0 to continue their indifferent start to the season.

There was only one game in the Premier Division due to SWFA Intermediate Cup commitments and St Athan vs Penarth Town being postponed at the last minute.

Newly-promoted Vale United continued their fine form as they ran out 1-0 victors over previously unbeaten in the league Barry Athletic.

In the aforementioned SWFA Intermediate Cup, Barry Athletic, St Athan and Vale United received byes into round two but the Vale was well represented in the first round.

Rhose won 4-1 against Cardiff Bay,

Dinas Powys Athletic saw off Tonyrefail Welfare 4-0 and Cowbridge Town edged out Star FC 3-2.

Unfortunately, Island Marine, Tynwydd and Masons Moving Group were eliminated. Island Marine narrowly lost out 4-3 after extra time to Nelson Cavaliers, Tynwydd were defeated 3-2 by Talbot Green and Masons went down 4-2 to Cathays Cons.

This week it's back to league action. Game of the day in the Premier Division could well be Vale United hosting Rhose, as the home team look to continue their 100 per cent start to the season.

In the First Division it has to be Barry Athletic B vs Sully Sports and in the Second Division the mid-table clash of Penarth B vs Island Marine B could be a very tightly-contested game.

HD

# Grace and Caitlin get Wales call-up

**TWO Barry Town United Ladies FC players, Grace Horrell and Caitlin Bevan have been selected to represent the Wales under-17 national squad for three European Qualifiers in October.**



Caitlin Bevan.



Grace Horrell.

The squad will fly out to Latvia on September 27 to play three matches against Germany, Turkey and the host nation, Latvia.

Both girls currently play in the under-16 age group at Barry Town and their years of dedication and hard work is now paying off with recognition on the international stage at a major tournament.

Grace, a powerful and explosive striker, started out aged nine at Cardiff City Ladies before moving to Vale Ladies & Girls FC in July 2015, who subsequently became Barry Town for the new season.

She has represented the Cardiff & Vale County squad for the last three seasons, scoring a hatful of goals and progressed into international football 12 months ago, representing Wales at under-15 level in the

home nations' Bob Docherty tournament in April this year.

Caitlin, a hard working box-to-box midfielder, started out at Cyncoed Girls as well as representing Thornhill for a season before joining Vale in July 2014.

Again, she has represented the county squad for three seasons, as well as winning the Welsh Schools tournament with Cardiff High in 2015.

Their achievements just emphasise the opportunities available in the female game which is growing at a rapid pace.

Barry Town itself currently has just under 200 female players aged from seven years of age through to senior ladies and is the largest club provider of girl's football in Wales at

present.

Club chairman Luke Williams commented: "This is fantastic news for both Grace and Caitlin who I have been fortunate to both coach and watch develop over a number of years, and their recognition is thoroughly deserved."

"They are both dedicated young athletes which the club are extremely proud of and they set a great example to all our younger aspiring players showing what can be achieved with the right attitude and dedication."

To find out more information on how to get involved in girls football with the club, please visit our website: [www.btuladies.co.uk](http://www.btuladies.co.uk).

Email: [btuladies@gmail.com](mailto:btuladies@gmail.com) or call: 07772 022435.

LW

# The Barry and District Ladies Skittles League

**LATEST results for September 5 from the Barry and District Ladies Skittles League are as follows:**

First division: Pila Palas (S Bennet 34) 317, S V Gals (T Warner 37) 323; Family and Friends (L Sheppard 29) 255, Barry Stars (N Jones 30) 237; Baker's Dozen (J Mullin 31) 297, Coppers (S Ford 28) 260; Red Admiral (G Williams 26) 234, Colcot Ladies (M Snelling 25) 235; Space Finders (M Clarke 34) 348, Allsorts (L Thomas 30) 297; Family Affair (C Grubb 26) 246, Cigar Ladies (E Simmonds 32) 238; Bobby's Girls (S Snelling 29) 260, Special Angels (T Scully, C Wills, K Hilberg 25) 249.

Second division: Roller Coasters (B Maffey 25) 226, Castle Bandits (L Nash, M King 23) 227; Cad Con Fillies (D Stringer 27) 238, Witchill Widows (C Gregory 25) 226; After Eights (Dot Davies 30) 250, Rhose Starlights (S Drake 28) 279; Breakaways (V Martin, J Dawkins 29) 284, Airways Angels (J Naish 31) 308; Clickies (E Walter 37) 292, Merry Makers (H

Duddridge 33) 230, Fallen Angels (K McInery, R Jones 28) 274, S V Lights (G Snook 23) 187; Castaways (D Rogers 28) 279, Witchill Weebies (S Cracknell 30) 280.

Third division: Vixens (K Thomas 40) 292, Little Devils (G Bowen 29) 268; Rebels (L Saunders, S Oram 20) 157, Challengers (D Elston 24) 195; Rugby Triers (C Jenkins, V Cawley 23) 220, Uptown Girls (T Anderson 28) 230; Hill Billies (M Wyman, I Dimond 35) 314, S V Ladies (R Leach 30) 266; LaBells (B Day, J Williams 32) 335, Twilights (S Haysom 32) 316; Dolly Mixtures (P Brigham 28) 198, Westenders (J Caravan, C Gee 22) 196.

Fourth division: Off the Rails (G Griffiths 25) 220, Boozey Birds (L Hams 27) 255; Persuaders (E Gardner 32) 212, Socialites (P Todd, J Parks 22) 196; Liberals (S Boyd 22) 193, Guardian Angels (S Rocon 25) 222; Witchill Wanderers (C Reynolds 31) 211, Odd Bods (S Ali, T Parry 29) 228; Hell Raisers (J Rosser 25) 185, Living On A Spare (A Finn 26) 214.

# The Barry & District League tables and results round-up

## CRIB DIVISION 1:

Moors Boys 7, West End 8; Liberals 8, West End Runaways 7.

League table: Liberals 26, West End Runaways 19, Wyndham Cons 18, West End 17, Cadoxton Cons 15, Moors Boys 14, Rhose Social 11.

## SKITTLES DIVISION 1:

Sea View B 6, Slammers 1; King William XII 5, Allsorts 2; Rugby Club 2, Rhose Social A 5; West End D 7, Liberals C 0; Liberals A 6, Rhose Social 1; Barries Boys 6, Rhose Social B 1; West End C 7, Cambrian Flyers 0.

League table: West End C 12, Sea View B 11, Barries Boys 10, West End D 9, Liberals A 8, Rhose Social A 8, Rugby Club 7.5, Rhose Social B 6, Rhose Social C 5, Allsorts 4, Slammers 3, Liberals C 2, Cambrian Flyers 1.5.

## SNOOKER DIVISION 1:

Rhose Social C 4, Penarth Cons B 1; Wyndham Cons A 4, West End C 1; Cadoxton Cons B 5, Rhose Social B

0; Harbour B 3, Savoy A 2; Cadoxton Cons Z 4, Penarth Cons A 1.

League table: Harbour B 11, Savoy A 10, Cadoxton Cons B 9, Wyndham Cons A 8, Rhose Social C 8, Penarth Cons A 7, Cadoxton Cons Z 5, Rhose Social B 4, West End C 1, Penarth Cons B 1, Services Social B 1.

## SNOOKER DIVISION 2:

Sully Sports A 2, West End B 3; Liberators 4, Harbour A 1; Savoy B 4, Market Street C 1; Market Street B 4, Wyndham Cons D 1; West End A 2, Cadoxton Cons A 3.

League table: Savoy B 11, Harbour A 10, Liberators 9, Sully Sports A 8, Wyndham Cons C 7, Cadoxton Cons A 7, West End A 6, West End B 5, Market Street B 5, Wyndham Cons D 4, Market Street C 3 (\* = points deducted).

All league and cup fixtures and results at [www.barryleagues.co.uk](http://www.barryleagues.co.uk) and on Facebook - search for 'barry leagues'.

JW

# Tennis players compete in memory of Ruth Tamlyn

**ON Sunday afternoon, September 18, the ladies of Dinas Powys Lawn Tennis Club came out in the warm sunshine to play in the Ruth Tamlyn tournament.**

Ruth was a vibrant member of the club from 1967 until her death after a short illness in 1990. Her brother gave two trophies in her memory for what has become a very popular annual ladies tournament. The tournament was established to bring



together all ladies of the club - both team and social players, something about which Ruth was very passionate.

Our thanks go to Margaret James who was so instrumental in organising the event, and also to former president Jean Williams, and current president Nan Thomas who came to present the trophies.

All three of these ladies played in the club teams with Ruth, and were among her closest friends.

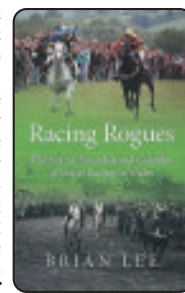
The winners of this very special tournament were Sammy Vowles and Mary Bray, with Freda Emery and Margaret James being runners-up.

The above picture shows Jean presenting the trophies to the winners.

DR NW

# Brian Lee's new book may have some familiar (Vale) faces!

**GEM columnist Brian Lee says that a number of people from the Vale will be surprised, maybe shocked, to see their names, and in some cases their photographs, in his new horse racing book 'Racing Rogues - The Scams, Scandals and Gambles of Horse Racing in Wales', to be published next month by St David's Press.**



Central Cardiff picture book.

**ABERTHIN'S Tim Vaughan, who has**

been in good form of late, landed a 35-1 double at Newton Abbot last Friday with 3-1 chance Master Dancer and 8-1 shot Winter Tale.

Both were running in hurdle events and Alan Johns was in the saddle in both races.

The former won by eight lengths from Echo Brava and the later scored by two-and-three-quarter lengths from The WealerDealer.

BRIAN LEE

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# Barrivale Bridge Club results

**LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club for September 13:**

1st Lynda & Maurice Wuetherick 59.38%; 2nd Jane Brook & Kay Dyer 55.95%; 3rd Mick Green & Denis Mottram 54.76%. Lynda and Maurice Wuetherick also won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. A partner may be arranged if required. If you would like to join us ring 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or 01446 735592 call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

Alternatively players, inexperienced or new, may attend on Fridays at 10am at the same address.

DR

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## TYLER (10) BECOMES BRITISH CHAMPION



Tyler Satterley with his coach, James Thomas.

**TYLER SATTERLEY**, aged 10 from Pencoed, who has ADHD, in February competed in the Welsh Gymnastics Disability Championships and won gold in his category for every apparatus winning the title of Welsh Champion.

He attends RSD Gymnastics Club has now achieved the title of British Champion. The

competition took place on September 11 in Lilleshall Sports Centre in Telford.

Children and young adults came from all over Great Britain to compete for the title of British Champion in their disability categories.

Tyler completed his routines on the rings, parallel bars, pommel, high bar, floor and vault and won a gold medal, earning him the title of British Champion in his disability category. One day he hopes to compete at the Olympics!

JS

## Sean interviews Tondur chairman



Tondur RFC chairman Graham Thomas was recently interviewed for Nation Radio's Rugby Nation show by presenter Sean Holley.

## Third win on bounce for Athletic

**BRIDGEND Athletic claimed their third straight victory of the season, overcoming old west Wales foes Cwmmllynfell by 21-17 at Newbridge Fields.**

This left them, after three fixtures, in second place in the table with 12 points along with the only other unbeaten side in Division 1 West Central, Aberavon Quins, who lead with 14 points.

Considering the major close-season upheaval in the playing side this is a remarkable feat and credit to the players and coaches. Again the youth team were prominent with scrum half Dan James and full back Luke Bevan starting and being joined later by forwards Tom Seldon and Javen Bell.

On a glorious day Cwmmllynfell's giant pack

took the early exchanges to the Athletic with control of the set scrums causing the Athletic to concede early penalties.

Scrum half Dan James made a glorious break from inside his own 22, gathering a chip ahead and racing into the opposition 22. He handed on to wing Harry Griffiths who unfortunately was bundled into touch.

Another scrum infringement by the Athletic led to Cwmmllynfell player coach centre Peter Thomas opening their account with a penalty.

The Athletic were trying to tire the Cwmmllynfell 8 by running the ball from all parts of the field. Harry Griffiths, Rhys Ward Jones and Luke Bevan all made useful breaks, but the team were unable to turn them into tries.

This tactic paid

dividends when debutant flanker Johnny Howard drove into the Cwmmllynfell midfield.

Centre Rhys Ward Jones carried on the move before some clever close interpassing saw lock Griff Davies cross. Scot Govan converted.

The tide was now turning in the set scrums as the Athletic scrummaging technique of Matt Muir, Nathan Holman and Lewis Davies overcame the tiring brute force of the much heavier away eight.

A driving maul from 15 metres out saw flanker Howard cap an excellent debut as he was driven over the whitewash for a second Athletic try that Govan converted.

Experienced prop Rod Apsee then came on to the field, replacing the injured Lewis Davies, and soon made an impact with driving ball carrying

as the Athletic dominated the closing minutes of the half to deservedly lead 14-3 at the interval.

The start of the second half was a continuation of the end of the first half with the Athletic set piece scrum and line out dominant. Jonathon Stoker and the back row of Howard, Scot Griffith and captain Ben Howe prominent.

After 15 minutes of the half centre Garin Lougher was driven 10 metres to cross near the posts. Cwmmllynfell dived in and to the Athletic team and coaches' amazement, referee Mr Ben Porte said he had been held up, awarding the Athletic a five metre scrum.

The Athletic drove the Cwmmllynfell pack back and were awarded three penalties as the away side repeatedly infringed. Expecting a penalty try on the third occasion the referee merely produced a yellow card for the Cwmmllynfell prop.

With no replacement prop the Athletics' scrum dominance was nullified by passive scrummaging for the remainder of the game. The Athletic then took a lineup option and prop Rod Apsee was driven over the line for a try, converted by Govan, to extend the lead to 21-3.

The passive scrums had a major turning point on the game as Cwmmllynfell came back into the game and the Athletic, after losing centre Rhys Ward Jones to be replaced by a hooker Iestyn Merriman, lost their way.

Poor decision making,



Johnny Howard breaks through. For more pictures from GLENSPORTS from this game, visit [bridgend-today.co.uk](http://bridgend-today.co.uk)

often kicking away possession with overlaps and handling errors, allowed Cwmmllynfell back into the game. They capitalised with a try for No 8 Michael Owen from a five metre driving maul.

Thomas converted to reduce his side's deficit to 21-10. In the 75th minute the game erupted into a mass brawl when Cwmmllynfell frustrated at what they deemed a late tackle launched themselves at the tackler.

It was the first bad incident of the game. To everybody's amazement the referee produced two red cards for each side with the Athletic's outside half Govan and centre Merriman the home recipients.

With the final play of the game the Athletic reorganised back division attempted to run out of defence inside their own 22 in search of a bonus point try. When a pass was dropped wing Bowdy Davies pounced on the loose ball to cross for a converted try under the posts to give his side a losing bonus point at 21-17.

This Saturday the Athletic visit Ammanford hoping to extend their winning streak, before returning to Newbridge Fields on October 1 to take on Trebanos.

The youth team have a local derby this Saturday when they entertain Pencoed Youth on the Bridgend Ford Brewery Field in the first round of the Welsh Youth Cup - kick off 2.30pm. AB

## EMPHATIC WIN FOR PORTHCAWL RFC

**PORTHCAWL RFC went on the road and took full advantage of great playing conditions and defying a late comeback to rack up an emphatic win at Glyncoerrwg.**

The Seaweeds struck first as their early dominance put Corrwg under pressure and Josh White slotted a fine penalty, his first contribution of an outstanding personal display on the day.

White's sublime skills in handling are matched only by his kicking prowess and he extended the visitors lead shortly afterwards with a monster kick from five metres inside his own half for 0-6.

The home side are always a determined outfit and they pulled back a penalty before the first try of the day, following a storming couple of runs from the rampant Tom Butcher, back to his best at No 8.

With the Porthcawl scrum causing Corrwg all kinds of problems, Porthcawl scrum half Aled Ball was able to drive over from close range for the try, again converted by White and a lead of 3-13.

Porthcawl's pack, with skipper Richard Hnyda leading the way, kept supplying possession from the lineout, with only final touches denying the visitors further tries.

Glyncoerrwg snatched a useful penalty to keep them in touch but they never really threatened to produce a try as Porthcawl's stout defence held firm.

The Seaweeds dominance of the upfront battle paid dividends when a rolling maul over the home line resulted in a try for Porthcawl, with flanker Jake Furness getting the touchdown and White's conversion put the visitors ahead at 6-20.

Furness, having an impressive match at flanker further stamped his impression on the match with a smart break through midfield and perfectly timed his pass to the supporting Shawn Wilcox who glided in at the corner for a super try, bettered only by White's touchline conversion for 6-25, as the match drew into half-time.

Shortly into the second spell, Glyncoerrwg snatched a penalty for 9-25, before Furness was at it yet again, this time securing the try for himself and White's monster conversion from right on the touchline made for a delightful seven points and 9-32.

White's almost unerring boot added a smart drop goal as Porthcawl pressed deep in the home 22 but with options limited and at 9-35, the match seemed well in the bag.

That said, the home side's pride seemed to appear and when the match went to passive scrums due to Glyncoerrwg running out of front row players, it certainly helped their cause.

With Porthcawl tiring after a very good and workmanlike shift throughout the match, allied to home determination, Glyncoerrwg produced two converted tries in the final two minutes but all too little too late as the Seaweeds moved to second spot in the league with this bonus point win.

Garth Rees and White were the pick of Porthcawl's backs, with Hnyda, Butcher, Anthony Griffiths and Furness, in particular, seemingly everywhere up front and getting the man of the match award.

Porthcawl go in search of more points at local neighbours Bryncethin on Saturday.

\*See TRACEY WILLIAMS' pictures from this game at [bridgend-today.co.uk](http://bridgend-today.co.uk)

PF

## Cricket club bowled out of championship!

**BRIDGEND Town Cricket Club's junior team have been bowled out of the Welsh under-19s T20 championship, losing to Gwent side Newbridge Nitros.**

Four junior cricket clubs from across Wales battled it out at the home of Glamorgan Cricket, The SSE SWALEC, on Sunday with Tawe Tornadoes and Pwllheli under-19s knocked out of the semi-final stages.

In the final, Nitros

bowled Bridgend out for 63, and won by nine wickets, finishing at 66 for 1.

Matt Evans, Bridgend Town Cricket Club under-19s team manager, said: "It may not have been the result we'd hoped for, but I'm so proud of the whole team and the achievements we've made this year."

"We're a pretty small club but we've got a fairly big cross section of players from youngsters who are just 12 up to our captain who is 19."

Despite this age gap across the team, everyone, both on and off the field has worked really hard to help us reach our goal of making the final."

Robert Croft, SSE SWALEC ambassador and head coach at Glamorgan CCC said, "It's great to see so much talent coming up through our grass roots clubs and it's a great opportunity for them to play at our national stadium. Commiserations to Bridgend."



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